The Mirror of Life

ACCURATE ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE LEADING EVENTS OF THE DAY

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GAMBLED AWAY HIS WIFE'S FORTUNE.

The Wife Shoots Him as He Stands at the Table.

The Mirror of Life
ACCURATE ILLUSTRATIONS OF PASSING EVENTS OF THE DAY

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All communications must be accompanied by the sender's name and address to ensure absolute confidence, and addressed to the Editor, and no answers will be sent by post. "THE MIRROR OF LIFE," Ltd., 172, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. THOMAS.—1. There is no record for a flying start at 100 yards. 2. See answer to J. Deacon.

H. P. H.—1. Jem Jeffries is a Californian. 2. 6ft 1¼in.

A. B.—John L. Sullivan met Jake Kilrain at New Orleans.

J. E. WATSON.—Manifesto won the race twice, in 1897 and 1899.

T. WALLACE.—Sold and left this country.

G. REDFERN.—1. He is at present in South Africa. 2. We cannot tell the exact locality. 3. Address Pretoria.

J. G. M.—Democrat, Diamond Jubilee, and Goblet in the order placed.

D. MASTERS.—On the Wood Green track.

W. WALLIS.—We will publish the portrait and record shortly.

T. PROTHERO.—1. Jem Mace beat Tom King in January, 1862. 2. King won the return battle in November of the same year, but declined a third encounter, and Mace was again champion.

H. WISEMAN.—Yes, nine times in succession.

R. V. C.—1. Star Pointer, the American horse, was a pacer, not a trotter. 2. No.

P. JOE.—Hanlan beat E. Trickett and E. C. Laycock twice, also R. W. Boyd and W. Elliott once each on the Tyne.

G. CRAWFORD.—1. He is not middle-weight champion of England. 2. Johnny O'Brien.

D. MENZIE.—1. He is still an amateur. 2. Certainly.

D. F.—1. It would be a contest for endurance and is not allowed. 2. A stated number of rounds.

T. NUGENT.—He was an amateur.

W. BOYD.—1. L. Reiff rode 188 races, won 56; J. Reiff rode in 140 races, winning 27; Sloan had 343 mounts, and was successful 108 times. 2. Yes, they all hold better positions this year.

N. N.—From 1719.

C. RIVERS.—It was rowed for first on the Tyne.

J. LENT.—Birmingham has the best record.

"JUMBO" SMITH.—Record received, send photograph.

W. LAND.—At the Royal Aquarium.

C. CREST.—He is not in this country.

H. ROBINSON.—1. The fastest time was 21min 44sec. 2. By G. Bubear. 3. On April 23, 1894.

T. WILLIAMSON.—One mile and six furlongs.

W. BEST.—He always finishes his training at Brighton.

AMBROSE.—Middle-weight, that is not to exceed 11st 4lb.

CHARLES JENKINS.—Your letter received, but too late for insertion.

J. DEACON.—One hundred yards has been covered from a standing start in 9 1-5sec by both H. M. Johnson and H. Bethune.

GEORGE PEACOCK (Glasgow).—The portrait will be published October 17.

E. B. (Sutton in Ashfield).—You win. George Corfield defeated Nunc Wallace at Sheffield, September 9, 1895, in eighteen rounds.

W. CLARKE (St. Leonards).—Apply Ward, Lock, and Co., Fleet Street.

A. B. (Harrow Road).—The Anchor Boxing Club still lives. Address the Secretary of the Kensington B.C., Notting Hill.

JOHN GRIFFITHS (Senghenith).—If published you can obtain it of Ward, Lock, and Co., London.

H. T.—Jack Maloney, of Clare Market, never met Jack Collins, of Bloomsbury.

(Several Answers crowded out).

THE MATCH BETWEEN "DIDO" PLUMB AND CHARLEY McKEEVER.

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF OLD AND PRESENT-DAY BOXING BOOTHS.

"PEDLAR" PALMER AND HIS PROSPECTS WITH HARRY WARE.

It always hall-marks a writer's assertion when names of places and names of men are given to corroborate a statement. In the days of old boxing booths did not travel the country from east to west and from north to south without touching the London district, as is now their wont; but they found most of their support in spots which have long since become the prey of the jerry-builder. We are old enough to remember when boxing booth proprietors pitched their tents on old Battersea Fields, Peckham Rye, and many other places on the south side of London, and Copenhagen Fields, Britannia Fields, Hackney Wick, and Homerton in the N. and N.E. districts; The Man in the Moon Fields, the World's End, the Fulham Fields, and various other fields in the west, and in the east the fields which were open from Victoria Park to Walthamstow. The last of the boxing booths near London were on the Britannia Fields, near Shepherdess Walk, City Road, and at Homerton at the confluence of the Wick Road and Morning Lane. This, we think, was about 1864, before both the fields in Homerton and the fields in the neighbourhood of the City Road were given over to bricks and mortar. It was here that Bob Webb, who fought Joe Cobley, used to marshal his merry men. We can see them in our mind's eye standing in the front of the booth. There was the great Ned O'Baldwin, 6ft 5in in his stocking feet; there was Bill Barry, who fought Jerry Noon; there was Denny Sullivan, "the watercress lad," who fought the "Black Diamond"; there was the "Black Diamond" (afterwards "Starlight's" mentor in Australia); there was Jerry Regan, of the Borough (still alive); there was "Long Goodman," of Hackney (still alive), and many others, the last of the Mohicans as far as London was concerned; for 1865 saw these places built over, and as far as Homerton and the City Road Fields were concerned, London saw those boxing booths no more. Bob Webb and his merry men had to find

Fresh woods and pastures new,

and they carried from London into the heart of the provinces a knowledge of boxing gloves and of boxing which kept the game alive in a fitful sort of manner when most of the best class of professors had left this country for the west. Goodness knows, this country at the present time is barren enough of boxing class; but the art would have been as unknown as the ancient sports of England, such as archery, had it not been for the boxing booths which have from time to time visited different parts of England, and showed the yokels there was something more than strength in boxing, and that was science. We are reminded of this by the fact that the man to meet Charley McKeever, the Yank, who put such a sudden stop to the pretensions of Arthur Valentine, hails from a boxing booth. We don't think we could mention a boxer of any pretension in the London ring at the present day who has not served his apprenticeship in a boxing booth. Dick Burge, the late Arthur Akers, Alf Ball, Elijah Ball, Frank Gess, Alf Wright, "Dido" Plumb, Johnny Hughes, Mike Flynn, and dozens more have learned "the noble art of self-defence" when exposed to the rushing tactics of the joskins, navvies, and sailors of the districts where the boxing booth was always a welcome visitor.

These retrospective thoughts come to our mind when we write of the match between "Dido" Plumb and Charley McKeever which takes place on Monday evening next at the N.S.C. "Dido" Plumb is the front-rank man of Harry Hughes's show. "Dido" is not a boxer out of work looking for an engagement. "Dido" is part proprietor of a snug beerhouse, and his wages, without nobbings when out with the booth, amount to board and lodging and something over two pounds per week. Yet Harry Hughes, the boxing booth proprietor, and "Dido" Plumb, the head man, are so enthusiastic over this match that Harry sends the best man in his show, Johnny Hughes, and his second best man, Ginger Osborne, away with "Dido" Plumb to train. Whilst "Dido," not to be behind hand with the governor, forfeits the "couple" and his board. Such a man as Harry Hughes is a worthy descendant of the Bob Webbs, the Joe Winns, and others who used to travel the country with their booths and offer to fight any man in the fair. Harry Hughes cannot fight, but Harry is willing to back those who can; and he is prepared at the present moment to back "Dido" Plumb level for £200 of the coin of the realm If Harry Hughes does not get that amount out the purse will not pay him, for the chief attractions of his booth are conspicuous by their absence; and in fine weather Harry ought to fist a couple of score a week.

There should be, and we have no doubt there will be, good money behind Charley McKeever. Most persons on this side of the "pond" who study matters pugilistic will remember "Kid" Lavigne and the mess he made of Dick Burge—a lightweight champion—who thought himself good enough to give weight to a middleweight and heavy-weight champion. Now, the man who has stood his ground with "Kid" Lavigne should be equal to tackling anything over 10st; but it must be remembered that when McKeever goes up against "Dido" Plumb he is tackling our best middle-weight. We may be wrong, but in sizing up Charley McKeever we think, properly trained, he will be conceding a lot of weight to Plumb. Plumb has always been on the borders of the middleweight limit, even whilst travelling in a boxing booth with Patsey Perkins, of South Wales, whom "Dido" confesses to have been his ("Dido's") first boxing instructor. Charley McKeever's claim to championship form rests upon meetings with men who were under rather than over the lightweight limit, whereas "Dido" has met men fully eleven stone in the persons of Fred Morris, Billy Edwards, Billy Heffernan, Jemmy Ryan, &c. What, we ask, would have been the odds on Fred Morris ("Muldoon's Cyclone") had he met Charley McKeever instead of "Dido" Plumb? We are simply weighing up the pros. and cons. of this contest. If Charley McKeever should win there will be all the more credit attached to his winning if he gives weight away, as most assuredly he will.

The match between Harry Ware and "Pedlar" Palmer is the next boxing match of any magnitude at the N.S.C. Although these lads are meeting at 2lb extra poundage we cannot see any likelihood of a reversal of the verdict given last year. These lads are cast in two different moulds. Harry Ware, young, strong, and aggressive, is a fighter. On the grass with knuckles unadorned the odds should be quite 2 to 1 on the lad who has now made Holcot, Northamptonshire, his home; but in a boxing ring Harry Ware's natural advantages are handicapped. "Pedlar" Palmer has only to duck and dive, land one, and get out of danger to score, as he did on the last occasion of the meeting of this pair. "Pedlar," who is a consummate master in the art of not taking any, is as artful as the fox. He will find in this match with Harry Ware that the purse and prize money can only be won by a prolonged contest. Harry Ware may win this battle by a knock-out, but the "Poplar boy" is so tricky with his head and feet that it is long odds on the above event not taking place. "Pedlar" Palmer has lost his first trainer, George Swanney, and his second trainer, Sam Blakelock (the boy who trained J. L. Sullivan to fight Charley Mitchell), and he is now giving the family a turn, as brother-in-law Joe Palmer is the companion—we think this term will cover the word trainer, for Palmer has arrived at that age, being a husband and a father, when he thinks for himself and undergoes his training in his own sweet way, the "Pedlar" Palmer of to-day being a very different being from the submissive boy who fought the then thought unbeatable Billy Plimmer at the N.S.C. for the first time. Palmer is only constant in this, that he still sticks to his early love, Brighton, as training quarters

WARDER ADMINISTERING PUNISHMENT IN SING SING.

Prisoner, Securely Bound, Receives the "Cat."

(Subject of Illustration.)

OF the strict rules that must be enforced in all prisons, there are, perhaps, none so strict as those of Sing Sing, the criminal home of New York. Here, with a population of every kind—German, French, Irish, Swede, Dane, or Pole—the authorities have a much more difficult task to deal with the scum from the different countries that find their way into the portals of Sing Sing, but once inside, should the convict show any insubordination, he is treated to a dose of the "cat." Strapped hand and feet, he is placed face downwards on a bent plank, and with bare back exposed receives from a powerful warder ten or twenty strokes that leaves a life-long mark at each descent on his flesh.

TAKING A PLASTER CAST OF THE FACE OF A CRIMINAL.

These Experts Operated on Bresci, Who Murdered King Humbert, of Italy.

(Subject of Illustration.)

BRESCI, the criminal and assassin who in cold blood shot King Humbert, of Italy, a short time since, has had a plaster cast taken of his head and face. This was done by two experts in his prison cell after he was condemned to life-long imprisonment. Professor Lombroso, after studying the cast, declares that Bresci is neither a fool, criminal, fanatic, or wicked man, but describes him as a delinquent of the occasion, meaning he was carried away under the conditions of his organisation. Well, we all are, and as a French writer says, "That's why some ladies are dumb."

SHOPLIFTERS AND THEIR MANY DODGES.

How Shopkeepers are Defrauded.

(Subject of Illustration.)

MANY and artful are the ways of the female shoplifters in their means to appropriate the tradesmen's goods. By some fold in her dress she will be enabled to hide quite a number of articles, and jewellery stolen can be hidden in the glove. Many of these thieves are well dressed so as to lull any suspicion of the intent, and look and talk like women in smart society, even going so far as to have a carriage in waiting. The "honest" woman with the baby is another dodge, the infant being used as a cover to the woman's movements, while she abstracts some article from the counter.

FRED ANDREWS.

With his Backer, Mr. Watt Ward, and Trainer, Billy Gardiner.

(With Portraits.)

FRED ANDREWS is a young pedestrian well known in Edinburgh, has not yet run in public, is quite young, and is said to do good time for short distance races, besides having won many handicaps and matches in private. He can be matched to run any Edinburgh novice 100yd on level terms. He was recently matched to give H. Collins, of Dundee, 3yd start inside 100yd, but had the misfortune to break down in his training.

VISITORS TO "THE MIRROR OF LIFE" OFFICE.

AMONG the prominent people who have visited us this week are:—

Mr. Sam Brown (proprietor, Derby Arms, East Sheen).
Miss Brooks (manageress, Derby Arms, East Sheen).
Tommy Hogan (of America).
George P. Gardiner (Lowell, Mass.).
Jack Everhardt (New Orleans).
Young Spooney.
W. Clapham.
H. Clapham.
Bob White.
Bill Pike.
W. J. Abbott (Lowestoft).
Professor Edward Lake (late of South Africa).
Mr. S. M. Stevens (Manchester).
"Ginger" Mellett.
Bill Lampshire (matched with Andrew Tokel).
Jack Rance (trainer of Bill Lampshire).
Harry Wright (boxing promoter, Wonderland).
J. Freeman (amateur bantam champion).
G. Lewis.
George Shepherd.
S. Marshall.
Billy Gordon (Boston, U.S.A).
H. Hugh Gilbert.
H. Westbrook.
"Pedlar" Palmer, sen.
Roland Ryley.
J. Deacon.
Harry Schubert.
Mr. Charles Judge.
W. Watson (teacher of pnysical culture).
Jack Maloney (Clare Market).

AMERICAN GOSSIP.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, September 29, 1900.

EDITOR, THE MIRROR OF LIFE, London.

IF there is one fighter in the profession who detests Tom O'Rourke, the ancient manager of pugilists, and who is not afraid to state his reasons for saying so, it is Tom Sharkey, the ex-heavy weight slugger. Sharkey gave O'Rourke a terrible roasting last Thursday night, while at dinner, in the presence of a group of sporting men. Judging from the sailor's talk it wouldn't be a surprise if he and O'Rourke should exchange jabs and upper-cuts minus the padded mits the first time they meet. The reason for Sharkey's verbal attack on O'Rourke was the latter's making public the statement that he would match Joe Walcott, his coloured fighter, against Sharkey, and, furthermore, the statement that the manager felt confident Walcott could defeat Tom. When I asked Sharkey if there was any chance of his fighting Walcott he boiled over with rage. Almost choking himself with a mouthful of roast beef, he said: "No, there is not a chance on earth of my ever meeting that quitter Walcott. Tom O'Rourke knows very well that I never fought a coloured man, and never shall. I have drawn the colour line for ever. O'Rourke merely shows his meanness when he issues this challenge to match Walcott against me, for in doing so he is trying to make the public believe that I am afraid of his black faker. By my refusal to fight Walcott O'Rourke hopes to affect my popularity. As I have already said, I am not in the business to fight coloured men, and never will." "What was the reason you didn't retain O'Rourke as your manager?" asked the reporter. "I will tell you. I didn't care about the way in which O'Rourke managed me and my affairs. All he thought of was himself. He wanted everything. If he didn't get it he tried to make things as disagreeable for his fighters as he could. In the two years during which he managed me I made $60,000 for him. I can prove how that none of his coloured scrappers ever made that much for him. Furthermore, they are not likely to. I would not allow him to manage me another year, and on that account, I suppose, he is trying to get even with me by issuing the Walcott challenge. There is only one man I want to fight and that is Jeffries. I will fight him any time, and you can take my word for it, if Jeffries fights me I will beat him. I will be the champion of the world in a year and a half from this time." Jim Jeffries was in town yesterday. The champion, who is looking well, states that he is ready to box any one in the business. "I am now in the best of health," said the big boilermaker to a reporter, "and would like to tackle those fellows who have been saying all along that I am afraid. I would like to meet Fitzsimmons in preference to anyone else. I beat him once before, and I wish to show the public that I can do the trick again. He has been making a lot of statements of what he intended doing. Now let him make them good." There is also talk of Jeffries and Sharkey coming together for six rounds at Chicago. As the authorities in that city have placed a ban on all the big men, it is quite likely that the encounter will have to be decided at another place. Sharkey says he is prepared to go anywhere to have the battle come off. "The funeral services of the late James J. Corbett, erstwhile pug. champion, one time good fellow, but who is now a 'dead one,' will be held from the Cunard Dock when the Campania arrives," said Dr. S. W. Crowe, treasurer of the Sportsmen's Fund, and who gained distinction by burning W. W. Astor in effigy before Americans who had forgotten the existence of that gentleman. "One hundred and fifty of us will meet the Campania with a hearse and coffin. We will tell James J. he is a 'dead one.' We shall ask him to get into the coffin and be good. Whether he does or not, we will hold a wake at Kelly's that will out-Corbett Corbett." William Wood, commonly known as "Billy," the oldest living athlete in the country, died at his home, No. 293, Lenox Avenue, last Thursday night, after a short illness. He was eighty-six years old. His physician said his death was due to a broken heart. About a year ago Mrs. Wood, his wife, died. This wrought a great change in the athlete, who for fifty years had been at the head of his profession in this country. He was born at No. 2, Whitehall Street, and was the son of James Wood, commander of a famous clipper ship. The boy began his career in athletics at the age of fifteen—seventy-one years ago. He showed special proficiency as a long-distance runner, and for many years held the mile record in this vicinity. He became one of the most proficient scullers in Whitehall boats, and won many races from Battery Park to and around Ellis Island and return. On one of these trips he was caught in a storm and given up for lost. He was found after he had spent thirty-four hours on the water, perched on the bottom of his upturned craft. He established a gymnasium, the first in this country, in Crosby Street, near Bleeker. It became the resort of prize-fighters and athletes. Keenan, Yankee Sullivan, Tom Hyer, and others of the old school of fighters attributed much of their success to his careful training. In 1863, 1864, and 1865 he coached the Yale crew in their races against Harvard, and landed Yale the winner for the first time. As a professional oarsman he was first in forty-eight out of fifty races, and in his last race, which he rowed in 1861, he stroked his crew, consisting of Roberts, Matterson, and Lynch, who are now dead, to victory in a race in which participated the famous Bigians, Ward brothers, St. Johns, Poughkeepie, and Whitehall boat clubs. Wood was six feet tall. He never drank or used tobacco, and never took medicine or had a day's sickness. He exercised regularly every day, and even on the day he went to his bed took an hour's exercise on the chest expander. He always took a cold bath in the morning, followed by exercise at the chest weights, and never missed a six-mile walk daily. He made a fortune in the goldfields of California in 1849, and lost it on his return to this city in speculation in real estate. His last professional occupation was as instructor to the Y.M.C.A. in this city. At eighty, when he stopped violent physical exercise, he was able to perform difficult gymnastic feats with ease and grace. At Terre Haute, September 25, the world's trotting record was lowered by The Abbot to 2:03¼, which is a reduction of half a second of the record made by Alix at Galesburg, Ill., September 19, 1894. The new champion trotter is a highly formed seven-year-old bay gelding by Chimes, dam Nettie King, by Mambrino King. He is a product of the noted Village Farm, located near East Aurora, and owned by C. J. and Harry Hamlin, of Buffalo. He still belongs to the veteran breeder and his son, and to-day he was driven by the skilful reinsman Ed. F. Geers, who is the chief trainer for the Hamlins, and has given to the great gelding most of his training since a colt. The Abbot went into winter quarters last year with a record of 2:06¼, and had shown so well publicly that many expert horsemen thought him one of the greatest trotters ever foaled. This year, there being no regular classes for him on account of the scarcity of trotters in training with extreme fast records, the horse has been gradually prepared for his effort to-day. During several exhibitions against time he showed improvement right along, so that when the horse landed here a few days ago he had the best gelding record, 2:04, made at the Empire City Track, New York, and the best wagon mark for trotters, 2:05½, made at the same time. Edward Hanlan, who will have exclusive control of the coaching of Columbia's crews in the future, was at the university yesterday making arrangements in the gymnasium and boathouse for the fall practice of the candidates for both 'Varsity and freshmen crews. The men will be called out early next week, and will row on the Hudson in barges for a month if the weather permits. Hanlan will change the method of winter work completely. He does not believe in indoor work on rowing machines, and will not call the men out for regular work until next February, instead of early in January as heretofore. Captain Nash is arranging for a fall regatta to be held on the Hudson about November 1.

THE TATTLER.

PROFESSOR O. R. WILLIAMS.

A Well-known Tonsorial Artist of Bangor.

(With Portrait.)

PROFESSOR O. R. WILLIAMS is another aspirant for honours in the rapid shaving line, and appears anxious to try conclusions with anyone his own age at a public contest. Mr. O. R. Williams will, we think, be able to carry out his desires, he having aroused that talented family, the Hardie's, father and sons.

TOMMY JONES,

A Famous Wrestler of Staleybridge, and His Wrestling Partner.

(With Portraits.)

TOMMY JONES is one of the best lightweight wrestlers in Lancashire, and showed to advantage in "Jolly Jumbo's" great wrestling tournament, which took place at Kensal Rise in the Easter of last year. As exponents of the art of catch-as-catch-can wrestling Jones and his partner have few equals.

A FRENCH GIRL'S ALARMING EXPERIENCE WITH BURGLARS.

Two Notorious Thieves Captured by the Police in Paris.

(Subject of Illustration.)

JOSEPHINE MAITRE, the daughter of a wealthy French merchant, had a startling experience which led to the capture of two notorious burglars. She had returned home late from a dance, and just as she was about to retire the noise of feet in the room above attracted her attention. She listened for a few moments and then heard someone coming down the stairs. Well knowing that no one should be in that part of the house, she opened her door and faced the intruder, when suddenly a light from a lantern was flashed in her face. She then saw two men with masked faces confronting her, and an uplifted knife threatening her should she raise any alarm. But the men had been followed, and fell an easy prey to the officers who had been on their track.

A MERRY QUARTETTE AND AN EVENING'S AMUSEMENT.

The Housemaid Wrestles Her Opponent to the Floor.

(Subject of Illustration.)

THERE was revelry by night, but it was not the fashionable gathering of the upper circle. The sounds of revelry proceeded from the kitchen, and it was high life below stairs for about two hours. The cook and housemaid had invited their young men, and they had a song or two to pass the time. A liberal supply of beer, commandeered from the master's cellar, helped them on with the proceedings. Then, filled with John Barleycorn, they performed feats of strength, until the housemaid exhibited her muscular power by wrestling the cook's partner to the floor, who in the descent was considerably shaken, which brought their hilarious amusement to a close.

GAMBLED AWAY HIS WIFE'S FORTUNE.

The Wife Shoots Him as He Stands at the Table.

(Subject of Illustration.)

ANOTHER tragedy has occurred at the gambling saloon at Monte Carlo. This time it was not suicide through loss, but a wife who shot her husband, through his propensity for gambling, which had brought the family on the verge of ruin. The man had taken the last hundred pounds from her keeping that evening, and went straight to the tables prepared to lose every penny, in fact, twenty pounds had already gone when the wife entered the room and, mad with passion, she upbraided her husband, cursing his folly, and, drawing a revolver, shot him twice. The second shot proved fatal, and the man died before any assistance could be rendered. The woman will doubtless get off with a very light punishment.

J. J. DOWDALL,

A Prominent Boxing Promoter and Host of the Floriana Hotel, Malta.

(With Portrait.)

MR. J. J. DOWDALL, the genial host of the Floriana Hotel, Malta, is the most prominent promoter of boxing contests on that famous island. Whole-souled and generous to a fault, he is a great favourite with all H.M. handy men—in fact, everyone fond of a bit of sport.

OUR LETTER BOX.

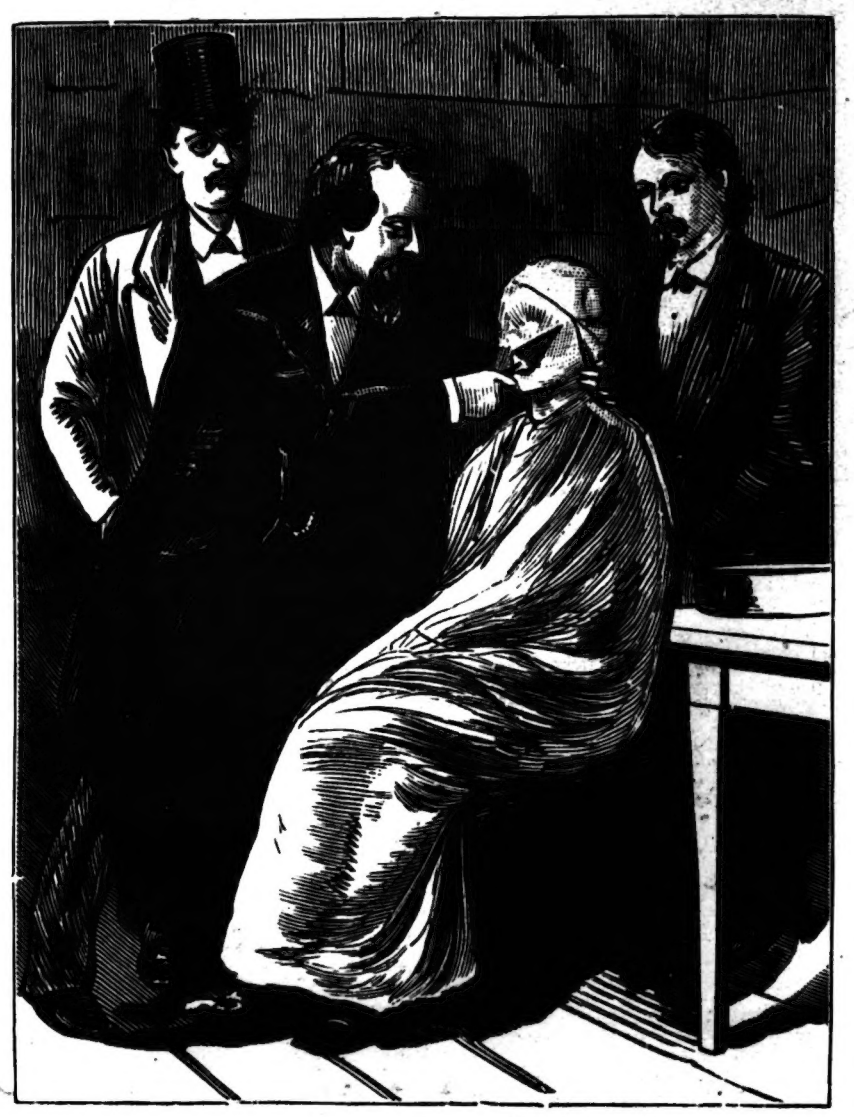
LETTERS are lying at our office for:—

Alec Hurley.
Dick Burge.
Bill Pincombe.
Bert A. Dorman.
Sam Fitzpatrick (of America).
Miss Vesta Victoria (music-hall artiste).
J. Gans (two).
George Campbell.
B. Dobbs (of America) (two).
"Greek" George.
Billy Ross.
Charles Connolly.
A. McDonald.
R. Fitzsimmons (two) (ex-champion of the world).
Claude Thompson.
George Fox Giles.
George Slark.
Jem Holloway (of South Africa).
Driver Pincher.
J. Corbett (of America).
Frank Leon.
P. Gorman.
Jem Hall (of Australia).
C. McCoy.
Billy Plimmer.
H. Chance Newton.
Ernie Greaves.
Mrs. Lelia White.

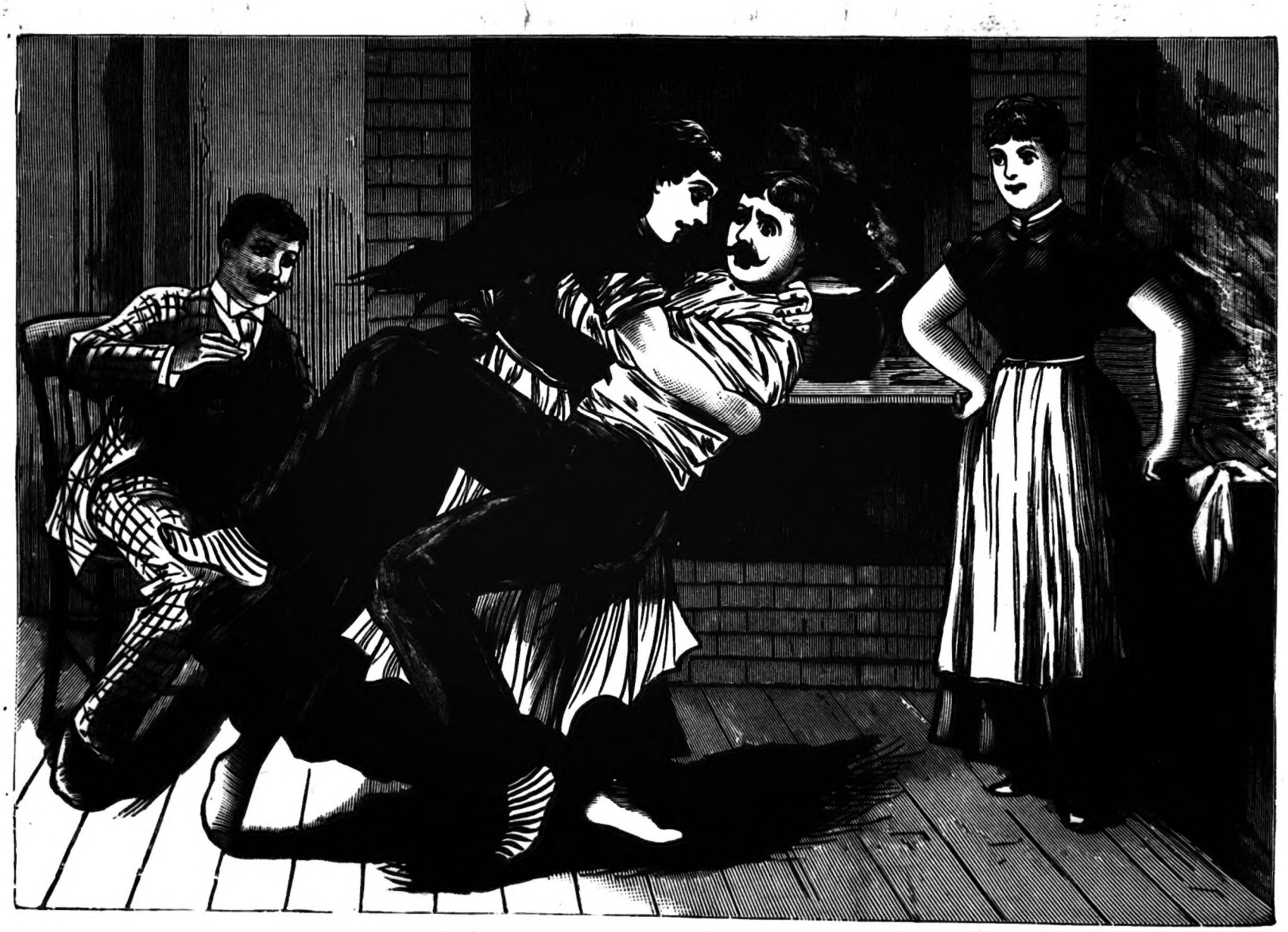
LOST AND FOUND.

"I CALLED in answer to an advertisement for a boy," said a bright-faced little chap to Mr. Goldstein, the mill owner, who was a bulky, red-faced man. He was about to leave his private carriage to enter the office when thus accosted. With him was a golden-haired little girl, who listened to the boy with eager interest. "Well, how old are you and where have you been working?" said the mill owner, looking at the lad sharply. "I came from the country, sir, where my mother and I worked in a small mill since father died. Now she is gone and so I came here to the big city hoping to find a better job." "Well, you are too young, and a boy that don't know the city is of no use to me. My advice is to go back to your former home," said Goldstein in a tone of dismissal of the subject, then he turned to his driver and said: "Take Miss Alice where she wants to go." The boy—Philip Martin by name—felt a lump rise in his throat, and with a discouraged feeling walked listlessly down the thoroughfare. He had no home or friends and no shelter. Furthermore, he had spent nearly all his money in getting to the city. While meditating on what should be his next move he felt a gentle touch upon his arm and heard a sweet, low, childish voice say: "Never mind, here's a card with the name of my uncle on it, and he will give you work." Turning he saw again the face of the mill owner's daughter, Alice Goldstein. "It is all right," said she, "and never mind thanking me. I'd like the same thing happen to Will—that's my brother—if he was alone in a big city." Philip opened the paper containing the card and inside was a bright new half-a-crown. So unexpected was it all that as soon as the little Samaritan departed he burst into tears, whereupon some little fellows in passing called him "cry baby." Feeling very tired he sat down on one of the park seats intending to seek Alice's uncle when he had recovered his mental balance. He fell fast asleep and when he awoke the parcel which he brought from home containing a valuable recipe, a bible and his mother's photo had disappeared. Gradually, however, he thought of the little girl, of the card which bore the name of a possible employer and of his empty stomach. he thought of her and half-a-crown brought hope and comfort, so he proceeded to a restaurant and had his first square meal since arriving in the city. On leaving the place he again saw the Goldstein carriage and the fair Samaritan, who beckoned him to her side, and, much to his astonishment, held up the missing parcel, which had been stolen from him while asleep. Twenty years have passed since Philip Martin and Alice Goldstein met. During that time Phillip secured a good position and took up a study of medicine. He was now a prosperous physician, and one night was called into consultation, the case being that of a young man dying in squalor. As he entered the room his eyes met those of a beautiful young woman, who rose and extended both hands appealingly to him. "Do you not remember me?" said she; "do you not recall your first attempt to secure work in London." "Ah, indeed I do. Can this be the little Samaritan who saved me from despair? I tried in vain to keep track of you, but they told me you were travelling and I fancied you had settled down in married life. Maybe it is so!" "No," said she, "and I've done better by you, for I've followed your career these many years, and congratulate you on your great success with the Little Diamond Liver Pills." The doctor then listened to the painful story of the patient, who was the brother of Alice—the "black sheep of the family," who from boyhood had been alienated from his father and sister, was reinstated for awhile in his father's good graces, but later, through speculation, brought financial ruin and a suicide's end for the father. Dainty Alice, who had been supporting herself by teaching music, discovered his whereabouts, but too late, for he was at death's door. Dr. Martin on taking his leave said: "By the way, tell me how you found the parcel that day." "Well, I kept you in sight and so witnessed the act of the thief, and Jim, the coachman, made him give it up." As they stood talking Alice's eye fell on an old coin and a ring worn on the doctor's chain. The doctor read her thoughts and said: "Yes, that's the same coin, and it has been indeed a charm! There is my mother's photo, and, as you know, the recipe for the Little Diamond Liver Pills have saved many lives and reaped a fortune." They parted, but not before Alice's consent was given to his future calls, which resulted six months later in Dr. Martin's marriage to fair Alice. Prepared by the Little Diamond Liver Pill Co., 68, Stanmore Road, West Green, London, N. Price 1s. 1½d., per box of forty.—[Advt.]

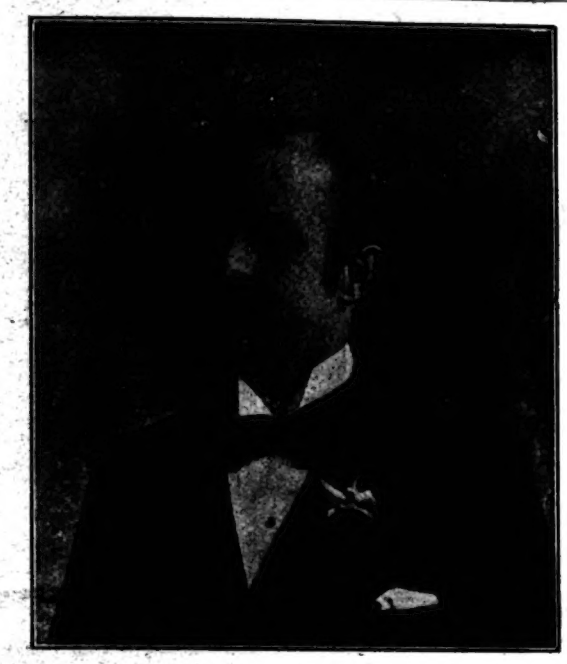
MISS MARIE WILTON,
An Interesting Dancer and Singer, who has Appeared at the Principal London Halls.



TAKING A PLASTER CAST OF THE FACE OF A CRIMINAL.
These Experts Operated on Bressi, who Murdered King Humbert, of Italy.



A MERRY QUARTETTE AND AN EVENING'S AMUSEMENT.
The Housemaid Wrestles Her Opponent to the Floor.



W. H. FELLOWS,

A Well-known Figure Among the Fistic Lights of Bristol, a Capable M.C., and was Manager of St. James's Hall, Bristol, During the Boxing Tournaments.

J. J. DOWDALL,

A Prominent Boxing Promoter, and Host of the Florians Hotel, Malta.

MOTHER LEFT HER HOME FOR A REVIVAL MEETING,

But Her Husband Favoured the Pub.

A FIVE MILE WALKING MATCH.—A five mile walking match took place at Portobello between D. Ferel, of England, and Charlie Storrie, of Portobello, for £10 a-side. The Englishman made the pace until 200yd from home, where Storrie, after an exciting finish, won. Mr. Geo. Wilson, of Edinburgh, was referee, and Mr. John Maguire, jun., starter. The winner was trained by A. C. McKay, of Portobello.

150 YARDS SWIMMING CHAMPIONship of London.—The annual race for the 150yd championship of London was decided at the Otter Club entertainment at the St. George's Bath on the 2nd inst., and resulted in an easy win for J. H. Hellings, of the Ravensbourne Club, who is also ex-champion of Australia. D. H. Logan, of the Leander, was second, and Morgan Dockrell, of the Tadpole, third. The winner's time was 1min 46sec.

FLYING SQUADRON SWIMMING Championship.—The final of the flying squadron championship in connection with the N.C.A.S.A. took place at Burnley Corporation Baths last Wednesday evening, and attracted a large attendance. The opposing teams were Manchester Osborne and Hyde Seal. The former showed in front from the start and gradually increasing their lead won by 66yd in the good time of 15min 49sec. The teams were: — Manchester Osborne: P. H. Lister, Robinson, J. Wright, G. Wilkinson, F. C. V. Lane, and H. Derbyshire; and Hyde Seal: S. K. P. Ripley, F. Fowden, F. Massey, T. Hodson, J. C. Smith, and T. Wildgoose.

PEDESTRIANISM. — BENTLEY TO Dolan of Leeds.—Bentley, of America, now in England for a season, seeing Dolan's match with Breman, of America, is off, Bentley will run Dolan two miles level terms for £200 or £300 a-side, month from signing articles. Reply to THE MIRROR OF LIFE will lead to a match.

WORLD'S AMATEUR CYCLING Records Beaten. — Last week, on the Crystal Palace track, A. L. Reed, of the Queen's C.C., the one-mile amateur champion of the London centre of the N.C.U., beat world's amateur records from a quarter of a mile to one mile inclusive. His times were as follow:—Quarter of a mile (from a flying start), 26 1-5sec (beating the record of 26 2-5sec made on the same track last Saturday by A. S. Ingram), half-mile, 57 4-5sec; three-quarters of a mile, 1min 30 2-5sec; and mile, 2min 3 3-5. The previous amateur best for a mile was 2min 5 4-5sec by W. J. Offen, on the same track, in October, 1898.

A SMART TEN-YEAR-OLD SWIMmer.—At a swimming carnival held at the Kingston Corporation Baths last Thursday evening the fair sex was well to the fore. A pupils' race for boys and girls was won by a ten-year-old lassie, Dorothy Burrows, who easily defeated Master Dudley Bennett and six other competitors. Dorothy gave Dudley 10secs start, but Dudley had to be content with the second prize. A novel feature of the entertainment was the illumination of the bath by electric lamps beneath the water.

LADY'S PLUCKY SWIM. — LADY Agnes Townshend distinguished herself on Wednesday last by swimming round St. Michael's Mount, in Mounts Bay, Cornwall, a distance of more than two miles, in an hour and five minutes. She was followed in a boat by Lord St. Leven, but required no assistance and showed no signs of distress on landing. The young lady is a niece of Lady Audrey Buller.

MOUTH-ORGAN PLAYING.—FRANK Leslie will accept Egerton Lewis's challenge at either solo or trick playing, or the three best tunes out of five on the harmonic at from £5 upwards, and will meet him half way.

MOUTH-ORGAN CHAMPIONSHIP.—In answer to Egerton Lewis, I, A. Richards, Aberdare, will play him singly, and will meet Lewis at Victoria Hotel, Pontypridd, at 7.30 p.m., next Saturday, October 13, 1900, to arrange a match.

A DART TOURNAMENT IN THE Borough.—A most interesting dart tournament took place at Ye Olde King Harry's Head, Borough, presided over by that saucy varlet, Steve Morgan, for a handsome gold watch. The entries were by no means bad, considering the weather and the trams being so near to take some of ye saucy knaves to the merrie green fields of Clapham, Tooting, Greenwich, and Wandsworth. Suffice it to say that in the first round Jones beat Smith; "Tap-Tap" beat Arthur; Seabrook beat Mick; Tommy beat Dixon; Collis beat Dakin; West beat Steve; Charlie Stewart beat La Feuillade. Second Round: "Tap-Tap" beat Tommy—this was a very interesting bout; Seabrook beat Stewart; Jones beat Collis: West a bye. Jones in the second round wanted 100 for game, and got the number with two darts. Third round: "Tap-Tap" beat Jones; Seabrook beat West. Final: "Tap-Tap" beat Seabrook. "Tap-Tap" received his prize amidst a shower of ruof cla. Steve will give another show next Sunday for a set of carvers, when he hopes there will be a record attendance.

DART CHAMPIONSHIP.—HEARING that Mr. Hart, of the Cathedral, New Cut, Lambeth, has found four champions at darts, Steve Morgan, Henry VIII. Head, will match four to play four the best two games out of three, home and home, for a leg of mutton supper and a side-stake. Answer will oblige.

PRESENTATION OF BILLIARD Prizes. The biggest handicap in the East-end took place lately at a select resort in the neighbourhood of Poplar. Over 200 competed for the four valuable prizes that were presented for the tournament that consisted of heats of two hundred up. After the first two rounds had been played and the weeding out process had been got through some fine play was seen. Breaks of 30, 40, and 50 became frequent occurrences, and the final winner was found in Joe Luck, who, though lucky to win, played under great difficulties, and must be complimented on not losing himself in complicated situations. The prizes were presented at The Grave Morris, and as a fitting time a special concert was arranged to mark the occasion. Alf Snelling and Lal Doyle occupied the chair, and after an overture the entertainment began. A permit had been obtained to keep open to a late (or rather early) hour, and all present enjoyed themselves with songs and wine. Space prevents full details, but among those that delighted the audience were many of our best music-hall celebrities. A number of artistes that were appearing at the Queen's Music Hall, close by, turned up by permission of the respected manager. During the evening the prizes were presented in a very efficient manner by the chairman. Mr. Luck. 1st prize (a very handsome clock and a pair of bronze horses); Mr. Harry Warner, 2nd prize (a splendid pair of oil paintings). Mr. Warner is best known as the captain of the Dane Cycling Club. Mr. Jack McGregor, 3rd prize (meerschaum pipe in case); Mr. Stern, 4th prize (gold mounted walking-stick). A few speeches were made and replied to, and again the assembly turned their attention to the artistes till the party broke up at a late hour. Among those present were Messrs. T. Trainer, Frost, Jack Fay, William Haines, Fred D. Harris (Queen's Music Hall), Ben Gales, Arthur Oughton, Sam Evans, Jack Mills, etc. It may be mentioned that, among others, the following star turns obliged: Con Crawley ("The Topics of the Day"), Pat Sullivan, Frank Coyne, and Johnny Wells. Miss Bancroft gained great applause for her spirited rendering of "True Till Death," George Walker, Arthur Stacy, Austin May ("You Will Miss Us When We Are Dead"). Brummy Meadows acted as whip in his usual efficient manner.

PEDESTRIANISM: TOM JONES and W. Vaun for £20.—A pedestrian match which caused plenty of interest in the Birmingham district took place at the Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury, on Saturday afternoon last, between a couple of veteran peds. in Tommy Jones, late of Smethwick, and Billy Vaun, of Birmingham, who were articled to run 120yd off a mark for £20. Both are without a doubt the oldest peds in Birmingham. Jones possesses a wonderful record, having, in addition to being a competitor in numerous matches, taken part in over fifty handicap finals. He is fifty-six years of age, stands 5ft 2in in height, and weighs 9st, and was trained by W. Eades. Vaun is fifty years of age, stands 5ft 6½in in height and scaled 9st 11lb. He has competed in numerous handicaps in the Midlands, and was trained by B. Lee. There was a capital attendance, and some spirited wagering ensued, each in turn being favourite. Finally, 5 to 4 on Vaun was laid, and a goodly sum of money depended on the result. From a good start Jones was first to assume the lead, and at the 100yd was in front. Vaun, however, finishing much the stronger, went to the front and won a most exciting race by two yards. Mr. F. Lloyd, the proprietor, was starter, and Mr. Fred Causer officiated as referee.

WORLD'S PROFESSIONAL RUNning Records Beaten.—At the Wood Green track on Saturday Leonard Hurst succeeded in his attempt to run nineteen and a half miles within 1hr 51min 54sec, by covering the distance named 56sec inside the time stipulated, and, going on, covered twenty miles in 1hr 53min 42sec, thus breaking the professional best on record of 1hr 54min by P. Brynes at Halifax in 1879 and the British best of 1hr 56min 33sec by the late "Choppy" Warburton. Hurst was splendidly paced, and ran with excellent judgment, his first half of the distance occupying 54min 26½sec, while he was only a quarter of a second outside his own world's record at nineteen miles.

"THE MIRROR OF LIFE" MAN visits a Radical Club at the invite of Mr. Joe Clark.—We were induced to pay a visit to the North-East Radical Club, Green Street, Bethnal Green, on Sunday morning last, and great was our astonishment on arriving there to find such a splendidly appointed building of great magnitude for an East-end workmen's club. We were most courteously received by the door-keeper in full uniform, who politely showed us into the strangers' room until the arrival of the president, Mr. J. J. De Hailes, and vice-president, Mr. W. Larkin, to whom our thanks are due for their hospitality and in showing us over their splendid building, which comprises a reception-room, billiard-rooms, a large refreshment bar, and concert hall capable of holding 600 persons. A concert was in full swing at the time of our arrival, the hall being full by an appreciative audience, which was most orderly, the entertainment being under the management of Joe Clark, who staged a splendid programme of vocalists and display of boxing, which, we are pleased to state, was very entertaining, each and every one gaining rounds of applause for their endeavours to entertain and amuse The artists who appeared was Charles Cordell, Jem Brown, Dan Kelley (capital Irish turn), Joe Viner, Dave Cornish, James Hovey, and Arthur Kendell. The stage was now cleared for the grand parlour scene, which was under the direction of that well-known M.C., Joe Farrell, which he carried out in his well-known inimitable style, in which he introduced the following well-known boxers: Jack Fowler, of Bethnal Green, and Fred Lock, of Old Ford, who defeated Hiram Cutler, of Birmingham, for the 7st 8lb championship of England, they sparring three splendid rounds. Albert Gould, the well-known ex-7st 10lb champion, had a grand reception when introduced. Will Hogan v. Dan Kenney, Bill Moore v. Jack Budgell, Tom Davis v. Joe Marchant, all of whom acquitted themselves in an able manner and gave great promise for the future. The grand wind-up was between Arthur Ames v. Joe Clark. This was a treat worth going a long way to see, and fairly brought down the house, and at the finish they met with a great reception. Splendid order was maintained by the president, who officiated as chairman, assisted by Harry Hayward. The band, under the leadership of Mr. W. Daniles, greatly contributed to the successful morning's entertainment by their grand selections. We thoroughly appreciate your remarks, Mr. President, that what's good for the West can be as well managed in the East.

JUMPING MATCH FOR £30.—A jumping match was decided on Saturday at the Larkhill Grounds, Farnworth, between Jones's novice and Mullens's novice, both of Bolton. The conditions were that Mullens's novice should jump at nine hops and jump, whilst Jones's novice in response was to cover ten spring jumps with six inches start, for £15 a-side. There was a good attendance, and betting ruled at evens, Jones's novice for choice. After an exciting and well-contested match Jones's novice won by three and a half inches.

ROWING MATCH FOR £50.—W. Small and W. Brightwell rowed a match for £25 a-side on the Thames at Putney on Monday, Brightwell receiving 1sec start in 1,000 yards. The race was only of interest for about 200 yards, as although Brightwell maintained the half length lead gained by him at the start until the London Rowing Clubhouse was reached, directly afterwards he faltered, with the result that Small took the lead and had the easiest of victories by one and a half lengths in 3min 3 4-5sec. The match was the outcome of a discussion that ensued subsequent to the Professional Handicap on the Thames that took place at the beginning of January last, the men rowing on handicap terms.

YANKEE YACHTING SCANDAL.—A great scandal is agitating yachting circles in New York. It arose out of the recent competition for the cup presented by Sir Thomas Lipton for "seventy-footers." Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, owner of the yacht Rainbow, which won the race, has refused to take the cup in consequence of certain allegations. Mr. H. B. Duryea and Mr. Harry Payne Whitney, joint owners of the Yankee, have sent a statement to the *New York Sun* charging Parker with having secretly changed the trim of the Rainbow at night.

AT NEW YORK ON MONDAY LAST Dennis Horgan put the 12lb shot 55ft 8½in, and the 16lb shot 48ft 2½in, both world's records. The previous best with a 12lb shot was 55ft 2in by G. R. Gray at Travers Island, N.Y., on June 11, 1892, while Horgan, at Queenstown, on September 25, 1897, put the 16lb shot 48ft 2in.

LAST NIGHT (TUESDAY) MANNY Lyons, the well-known exponent of the terpsichorean art, held his annual complimentary concert and ball at the Carlyle Club, Old Street. The hall was simply packed, the number of tickets sold being above the average, while clubmen from all quarters of London attended to give Manny a bumper. Owing to space full details are held over till our next edition.

WHAT McGOVERN HAS DONE AS A FIGHTER.

THERE is no way in the world to compare the fighting abilities of John L. Sullivan and "Terry" McGovern, as far as their records are concerned. There are but few good heavy-weights, and consequently the chances offered the big fellows are nothing compared with the opportunities that men in the lighter division have. Two or three fights a year is considered a pretty good record even for the heavy-weight champion, while men of McGovern's weight can secure good matches almost at any time. Jeffries has not fought more than fifteen men in his entire ring career, while McGovern has encountered nearly that many opponents this year.

Heavy-weights can naturally stand more punishment than men of any other class, which, of course, lessens the chances for a knock-out. McGovern at the present day has more knock-outs to his credit than any two heavy-weights living, and more than five times as many as John L. Sullivan, who was champion heavy-weight of America for twelve years. Jeffries has only been fighting four years, but in that time he whipped all the good men in his class. Yet his entire list of knock-outs does not in any way compare with that of McGovern. In fact, McGovern has knocked out more men this year than Jeffries has since he first entered the ring in 1896.

Everything considered, there has never been such a champion as McGovern in the history of the American prize ring. The following table will be of interest to ring followers. It gives the exact number of battles won by McGovern from his very start in pugilism. He has never met defeat. Out of fifty-one battles won he has gained thirty knockouts. Twenty-six of the thirty knockouts were in less than ten rounds. He has won four championships—the bantam weight from Casper Leon, feather-weight from George Dixon, and the 128lb championship from Tommy White. He won the championship of England from "Pedlar" Palmer. Here is the complete table:—

Battles fought	51
Battles won	45
Draws	3
No decision	2
Lost on foul	1
Won on foul	1
Knockouts...	30
Knockouts in ten rounds	2
Knockouts over ten rounds	2
Knockouts in less than ten rounds ...	26
Knockouts in less than two rounds ...	5
Knockouts in less than five rounds ...	11
Championships won	4
Battles fought this year	10

MISS MARIE WILTON.

An Interesting Dancer and Singer who has Appeared at the Principal London Halls

(With Portrait.)

MISS MARIE WILTON must not be confounded with the original Miss Marie Wilton, now Mrs. Bancroft, nor is she any relation to that lady. The subject of our illustration has always shown a marked aptitude for the stage, which may be gleaned from the fact that in her "school and pinafore" days we find her enacting the rôle of Rose Queen in "The Queen of the Roses," with a show of histrionic ability remarkable in one of such a tender age. We next hear of her during Mr. George Ginnett's tenure of the Colosseum, Dalston, as principal in a juvenile spectacle, where her terpsichorean powers soon brought her into prominence. After various appearances at sundry minor places of amusement she attended rehearsals at the New London, Shoreditch. After appearances at Collins's, the Metropolitan, Gatti's (Westminster), the Middlesex, the Royal, Marylebone, &c., she showed at a Tivoli matinée, which resulted in engagements at the Oxford and Tivoli. Her style is unique in its absence of all affectation, and her clear enunciation when singing and her graceful dancing have now placed her in the front row of the profession she has adopted.

SLADE MURRAY WILL BE IN town again at Christmas, and warbling new songs at three halls.

RARE BOOKS.

REAL VALUE, NO RUBBISH.

"Aristotle's Great Works," nearly 500 pages, 2s.; a smaller edition, 1s. 6d. "Plain Home Talk," 960 pages, 200 illustrations, 5s. 6d. "Maria Monk," cloth bound, 40 illustrations, 1s. 6d. "Revelations of Girlhood," 36 chapters, 6d. "An Artist's Model," illustrated, 6d. "The Lady's Maid," illustrated, 6d. "The Footman," illustrated, 6d. "The Ballet Girl," illustrated, 6d. "London by Night," illustrated, 6d. "Paris by Night," illustrated, 6d. "Fanny Hill," illustrated, 6d., or these last EIGHT books, value 4s., sent to any part of the world on receipt of 2s. 3d. Money Order, Postal Order, or stamps. A full list of others 2 stamps. "Transparent Playing Cards," showing the beautiful pictures, Male and Female, 52 in each pack, post free, 2s. 6d., better, 3s. 6d. "Transparent Dominoe Playing Cards," 28 in pack, 1s. 2d. Address—**M. L. REID, West Green Road, London, N.** Advt.

EVENTS TO COME.

THE following contests will take place during October:—

OCTOBER 10—Boxing at the Town Hall, Newmarket.

OCTOBER 11—Mr. J. T. Hull's Grand Boxing Tournament at the Drill Hall, Woolwich.

OCTOBER 15.—At the National Sporting Club, London, Charlie McKeever v. "Dido" Plumb, fifteen rounds; George Cunningham v. Jack Goldswain, ten rounds; Harry Churchill v. Bill Stonelake, six rounds; and other boxing.

OCTOBER 15—At Jemmy Lowes's, Hexham House Saloon, Newcastle, M. Stringer v. Jack Tait, fifteen rounds.

OCTOBER 15—George Ames's Boxing Tournament, Tee-To-Tum, Stamford Hill.

OCTOBER 16—At Jemmy Lowes's, Hexham House Saloon, Newcastle, Jem Richardson v. Harry Smith, twenty rounds.

OCTOBER 17—At the Lecture Hall, Deptford, Harry Westbrook's Grand Boxing Show.

OCTOBER 20—Harry Wright's Grand Boxing Tournament at Wonderland.

OCTOBER 20—Mr. J. T. Hull's Grand Boxing Tournament at the Drill Hall, Woolwich.

OCTOBER 22.—At the National Sporting Club, London, Bill Lampshire v. Andrew Tokel, fifteen rounds; six rounds contests, and other boxing.

OCTOBER 29.—At the National Sporting Club, London, Jack Guyon v. Tom Hands, fifteen rounds; 11st 4lb Novices' Competition; and other boxing.

BOXING AT THE NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB.

"WAG" ASHLEY DEFEATS BILL WOOD.

THERE WERE NO BIG STARS ON the programme at the National Sporting Club last Monday evening, but the card all the same contained the names of some capable men, and although the purses at issue were small ones, they served as a sufficient inducement for each to be a trier. Of course, the chief item was that between "Wag" Ashley and Bill Wood, set down for fifteen rounds. These lads put up a very good display. The first named towards the end had the best of the exchanges, and after going the whole distance gained the verdict, but Wood put up a game and very creditable show, and received hearty applause at the finish. The other bouts were all full of interest and well contested, keeping up the traditions of the club, where the best of boxing can be seen, and a credit to the management. The officials were: Mr. H. J. Preston, referee; Mr. Eugene Corri, timekeeper; Mr. A. F. Bettinson, M.C.; while Messrs. Tom Scott and J. H. Douglas shared the duties of judging in the final of the competition. Details:—

FOUR ROUNDS CONTEST.

J. TURNER (Willesden) beat W. ROBBIN (Kentish Town).

Turner put in the left several times, and getting the right home hard on the jaw, down went Robbin, who was counted out just as a minute of the first round had expired.

SIX ROUNDS CONTEST.

BILL PIKE (Leytonstone) beat LEEPER (Canning Town).

Pike taller, was smarter and cleverer with both hands all through the first round, which was of the quiet order. Up for the second time, Pike played for the ribs, but Leeper landed a couple of stiff ones on the dial, and Pike went on one knee. He rose, and they mixed it. There was very little between them when they went to their seats. The third round opened with Pike trying for the ribs, and he sent in the right, and with the left brought his man down. It was a battle royal, and Leeper showed traces of Pike's handiwork. The fourth meeting Pike sent in the left lightly; he twice tried the right, and after landing on the ribs Leeper retired.

THREE ROUNDS.

BILLY GORDON (America) v. BILL CHESTER (Mile End).

The first round was ladylike, they only waltzed through it. The second round tamely contested, and also the third.

SIX ROUNDS CONTEST.

JACK CRUDGINGTON (Mile End) beat CHARLEY WRIGHT (Lambeth).

Wright the aggressor, and Jack threatened with the right, and twice nearly upset his man. Both hit wildly, and both came down. Stopping for no repairs at their next meeting both hit freely. Wright the aggressor. He got on his opponent's dial, and with the right nearly sent Crudgington down, but the latter landed on the jaw, and Wright took no further interest in the affair.

THREE ROUNDS TRIAL.

C. RYDER (Hoxton) v. W. STONE (7th Royal Fusiliers).

A busy three rounds.

SIX ROUNDS CONTEST.

GEORGE COOPER (Islington) beat JEM WHEELER (Bermondsey).

Wheeler opened out with a left lunge, and both put plenty of steam in their blows. Wheeler landed a severe stiff hit on his man; the latter the better general. Leaving their seats for the second encounter, Cooper tried twice for the body, and swinging the left to his opponent's chin, sent him to the boards, and Cooper won meritoriously.

10ST NOVICES' COMPETITION.

FINAL BOUT.

JACK OSMAN (Walthamstow) beat J. WINTERS (Lambeth).

Winters had slightly the best of the argument in their initial meeting. The second round Wheeler hit straight, sending his man to the ropes, and took a slight lead. The third round Wheeler placed the left, but Osman stuck to his task gamely. Both tired towards the close, and after a spirited bout the verdict went to Osman.

After the interval came the chief item, a

FIFTEEN ROUNDS CONTEST.

WAG ASHLEY (Bermondsey) beat BILL WOOD (Bermondsey).

Wood was the first to enter the ring, having for his attendants Pat Condon, Bill Dunning, and H. Turner; Wag Ashley quickly followed with Bill Baxter, Harry Ashley, and Harry and Dan Goatley in his corner. All being ready Mr. Corri called "Time," and sent the pair on their journey. Wood taller, they hit simultaneously, both using their lefts. Wood seemed stronger, but Ashley very tricky scored well towards the end of the round. Up for the second round Wood forced his man to retreat; the latter kept popping in the left, and using his feet evaded his man. Wood played for the ribs, and it was a tough go. The third meeting Wood played for the body, both using left and right freely. Ashley skipping out of danger. A strong rally in which Wood took a very active part. Coming up for the fourth time Ashley led off lightly and Wood, following his man up, scored on the body with the right. Ashley skipped out of danger, and Wood's only intent was to get close to work on his opponent's ribs. The fifth round Ashley stood well up to his man, popping in the left, but he met a facer. Ashley, cleverer, scored. Wood hit, if anything, a trifle the harder. The sixth meeting Ashley put in a couple. This served to make Wood aggressive. Ashley, cleverer, took a leading hand, and drove the left hard on the ribs. Wood put in a right upper-cut. The latter never flinched, and took all that came without any trouble.

The seventh round, Ashley scored faster, and outgeneralled his rival at the hit, stop, and get away business, and at this point held a decided lead. The eighth round Ashley found his opponent's ribs, and had the best of the exchanges. Wood took all that came without flinching, and tried a right swing that failed to land, and Ashley went on his merry way. They opened the ninth round with a couple of body blows, then Ashley paying attention twice to the ribs, essayed the right, but it did not come off. Ashley was quicker and cleverer all through the round. Wood seemed to tire.

In the tenth round Wood woke up, and Ashley joining, it was hit for hit until Wood received the left in the bread basket, and was doubled up, but he managed to avoid his antagonist and lasted the round out.

Wood was receiver-general in the eleventh round, but he gamely stuck to his job and viciously swung the right. Forced to the ropes Wood still managed to outlast Ashley in a mix, and they received a round of applause on going to their seats.

The twelfth round Ashley scored fast with the left on the ribs and dial. Wood gamely answering, and tried a swinging right.

The thirteenth meeting Ashley forced the pace, but Wood proved a tough customer, and nearly upset Ashley several times.

The fourteenth round Ashley, as usual, forced the pace, but Wood countered well and held his own; but for a knockout he had little chance of winning.

In the fifteenth round Ashley again outpointed his man, Wood still having a useful hit left to stop his rival; Ashley's superiority was apparent all through, and at the call of time had run up plenty of points. He received the verdict.

BOXING AT WONDERLAND.

THE BOXING AT WONDERLAND last Saturday evening was well worth seeing, as carried out by Harry Wright with the assistance of Harry Jacobs, the secretary. Referees, Bob Knott and Dick Josephs; timekeeper, Mr. W. Murphy; with M.C., Ben Harris. 8st 4lb Competition for £15 solid silver belt and £5 cash. First Bout: "Wag" Hampton (Finsbury) beat Dick Parkes (Tottenham). Tom King (Aldgate) beat Dave Morbin (Walworth). "Kid" McCoy (Spitalfields) beat "Ginger" Elliott (Bethnal Green). Johnny Thomas (Leather Lane) beat Jack Cork (Paddington). Second Bouts: Hampton beat King.—King went well during the opening round, and in the next added to his gains, but in the third he went very weak, and Hampton wiped off all arrears before the call of time. Another round was ordered, and Hampton, doing all the scoring, received the award. Thomas a bye, McCoy retiring. Final bout, six rounds, takes place Saturday week. Eight Rounds Contest: Harry Fowler (Bethnal Green) beat Sam Cavil (Australia). - Strong and game as the black is, he stood no chance on points, and Fowler won. Fifteen Rounds Contest: Bill Radley (Bethnal Green) beat Joe Goodwin (Spitalfields).—A good fight throughout, and in the sixth round Goodwin held out his hand, but as Radley went to take it the gong sounded. This caused considerable commotion, and despite threats the referee ruled him as retired. Jack Scales and Fred Barrett gained applause for a grand three rounds display. Six Rounds Contest: Mike Casey (St. Luke's) beat Angus Griffo (America).—This was soon settled, as after sending the black all over the ring Casey put him to sleep under the minute. Steps will be taken in future to keep the entertainments strictly select.

AT WONDERLAND, SATURDAY, October 20, Harry Wright's Great Boxing Tournament.—The following contests will take place:—Fifteen Rounds Contest for £25: Bert Adams (Spitalfields) v. Charlie Stanton (Bethnal Green). Ten Rounds Contest: Driver Fry (Royal Artillery) v. Private Cook (7th Royal Fusiliers). Eight Rounds Contest: Sam Evans (Rotherhithe) v. Bill Lewis (Bethnal Green). Final of the 8st 4lb Championship (six two-minute rounds): Johnny Thomas (Leather Lane) v. Wag Hampton (Finsbury). Winner, solid hall-marked silver belt, value £15, runner-up £5. Special Six Rounds Contest: Ernie Veitch (St. Georges) v. Bill Hayes (Royal Marines). Six Rounds Contest: Harry Hundreds (Billingsgate) v. Dan Herring (Bermondsey). Special Six Rounds Contest: Bill Corbett (Walworth) v. Harry Benson (Hackney). Six Rounds Contest: Mike Casey (St. Lukes) v. Charlie Schriener (9st 4lb champion of Germany). Six Rounds Contest: Mark Bloom (Spitalfields) v. Bill Shaw (Stepney). Grand Wind-up between Ben Jordan v. George Harding.

CORPORAL McFADDEN, OF THE Royal Marine Artillery, will be only too pleased to accept Joe Knight's, of the 1st Grenadier Guards, challenge about the end of the month if any gentleman or the N.S.C. will give a reasonable purse, N.S.C. preferred. If so, would the N.S.C. make arrangements?

A THOROUGH BLACKGUARD.—"Jewey" Cooke is the familiar name given to Abraham Cohen, described as a tailor, but said to be a professional pugilist, who was charged at Bow Street with assaulting a 'bus conductor. The tribe of Cohen is not honoured by the prisoner, who behaved in an unseemly manner on the top of an omnibus. When remonstrated with he spat twice in the conductor's face, used a foul expression, and struck the conductor in the eye, afterwards running off. Sentenced to six weeks' hard labour, he gave notice of appeal. Mr. De Rutzen demanded two sureties in £100 each.

STOKER J. DORNEY SEEING THAT W. Coleman, of Limehouse, is in want of a match with him again, J. D. will box him the best of eight rounds at 7st 2lb, give or take 2lb if Mr. J. T. Hulls will give a suitable purse worth boxing for. An answer through THE MIRROR OF LIFE will oblige.

"KID" VEITCH, OF GATESHEAD, and Jack Fitzpatrick have signed articles to box twenty rounds at 7st 8lb, give or take 2lb, for the purse offered by the West Hartlepool Gymnasium and a side stake, the match to come off within four weeks, and THE MIRROR OF LIFE to appoint referee and timekeeper.

RACE WEEK ENTERTAINMENT IN NEWCASTLE.

EVER ON THE ALERT TO PROVIDE pleasure in the shape of boxing for those who take an interest in the noble art, Mr. James Lowes will hold a carnival at his Hexham House saloon, near the Central Station, Newcastle, on Monday and Tuesday evenings next. On the night of the first-named day M. Stringer, of Leeds, and Jack Tait will box the best of fifteen rounds for £10 a-side and a £30 purse, and on the Tuesday night Jem Richardson, of Honolulu, and Harry Smith, of Birmingham, box fifteen rounds for £55. In both events great interest is being evinced, and each of the boxers is in strict training. Thus the sport, which will be enhanced by exhibitions by the best local boxers, will be of a most attractive character.

JEMMY HOLLOWAY, OF LIVERPOOL, would like to box Joe Addley, of Liverpool, six or eight rounds if Professor Harry Thorne will give a trophy worth boxing for. An early answer will oblige, as business is only meant.

JEM LONG, OF LEEDS, LATE of Bradford, seeing in last week's issue that Jim Fitzpatrick, of Belfast, wishes to fight him again, J. L. will fight him the best of twenty rounds at 8st 4lb, give or take 2lb, from £5 to £25 a-side and the best purse offered. If Fitzpatrick cannot find the money Long will fight him at catch-weights for the best purse offered, and will guarantee £5 for his appearance in the ring.

HARRY BROWN, 9st 4lb CHAM-pion of the North, hearing that Frank Stewart, of Manchester, wants to box him, Brown is prepared to box him fifteen two-minutes rounds at any reasonable weight for £25 a-side, or Stewart's own sum providing Harry Thorne will give a purse to box on the Liverpool Cup night. Hoping Stewart will put down some money and give up swanking.

THE WELL-KNOWN BOXER, PRO-fessor Walter Eyles, the 9st 8lb champion, gives instructions in the noble art at the Horse Shoe, St. John's Street, Clerkenwell Road. All old and new pupils are welcome to his rooms, and all lessons are private. Terms can be arranged to meet all classes, and this winner of innumerable contests is a fit person to teach the art of self-defence to all gentlemen that are deficient of even the preliminary practice.

MATT PRECIOUS TO THE WORLD.—M. P. writes and states that he has not put out a challenge at 7st 6lb, but will box any man in the world at 7st 8lb for not less than £200 a-side upwards to £500 and the best purse. A reply through these columns will lead to business.

HARRY PONTING, OF WHEATLEY Hill, to Dan Angus, of South Shields.—In answer to Angus's challenge I am sorry to say I cannot accept it just yet, having injured my hand in our last contest at Hartlepool, but I will try and oblige him with a return match in a few weeks' time.

RE-OPENING OF THE NEW GOOD-win Club.—This resort, situated at 5, Kingsland Road, re-opens its doors this day week, when a special assault-at-arms will take place. It will fully sustain the name it got in the past, and try to increase its fame during the coming season. The club is for members and friends only, and will be conducted in a first-class manner. Mr. George Archer has been appointed boxing manager, and Ben Harris M.C.

GEORGE MENDOSA WAS THE BEST at his weight a few years ago, but when in the zenith of his fame retired from the arena to seek a more congenial occupation. He held the 7st 8lb championship in 1892, and won Ben Hyams's 8st 4lb championship belt. He has decided to visit America, and sails in about a month. While over in the New World this old (he is not old in years or vigour) champion would like to have a cut at Terry McGovern for a purse and a small side-stake.

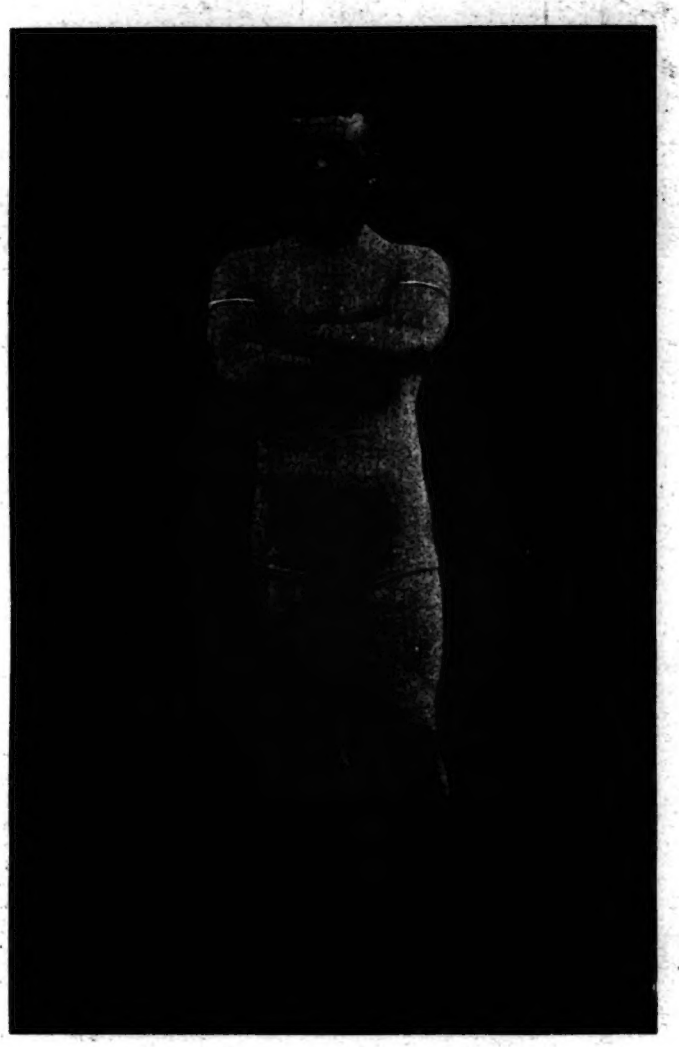
JACK FITZPATRICK, OF CANNING Town, to Jack Player, of Stratford.—Seeing Jack Player is challenging all Essex at 7st 10lb, Jack Fitzpatrick will box him ten, fifteen, or twenty rounds for the best purse offered. An early answer will oblige; business only is meant.

JACK FITZPATRICK, OF CANNING Town would like to box Charley Taylor, of Leicester, Denny Curran, or Joe Goodwin any number of rounds, if Mr. J. T. Hulls or any other gentleman will give a purse.

JOHN HARRIS WOULD LIKE TO box any 5st lad in the world, nobody barred, first come first served, if any boxing promoter will give a purse. An early answer will oblige.

J. EDWARDS (OF GATESHEAD) would like to box C. Smirke twenty rounds at 7st 6lb for £10 a-side if Tot Landreth will give a purse.

(Continued on page 10.)



TOMMY JONES. **WRESTLING PARTNER.**

A Famous Wrestler of Stalybridge, and His Wrestling Partner.

A FASHIONABLE OPIUM SMOKING DEN IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The First Step to Degradation and Self Destruction.

PROFESSOR O. R. WILLIAMS,
A Well-known Tonsorial Artist of Bangor.

FRED ANDREWS,
With his Backer, Mr. Watt Ward, and Trainer, Billy Gardiner.

WHERE LADIES GET THEIR LIGHT REFRESHMENT AND SUNDRY GLASSES OF WINE.
Fashionable Institutions Who Supply Their Customers.

(Continued from Page 7.)

THE BARNSBURY BOXING CLUB'S PRIVATE ENTERTAINMENT.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT IS THE principal feature of the ability of A. J. Newton in teaching the younger generation the art of boxing and other manly exercises. It is easily seen how a man can be taught to use his strength and power to the best advantage, but whereas we find strong men (Samson, Sandow, Hercules, &c.) capable of lifting two or three tons, the ordinary specimens of humanity are greatly inferior in this respect to all who practice the use of heavy-weights and the development of their energies. After A. J. Newton had twice taken the honours (champion) at St. James's Hall he retired from the arena and left others an opportunity of showing the prowess and gain the applause of lovers of the manly art. His efforts to instruct the youth of the present day in the mysteries of ringcraft are shown every day in the success of his pupils at the various clubs affiliated to the A.B.A. To make every portion of the body strong and able to undergo any amount of exertion is the chief point in the professor's bible, and it is only giving due praise when we say that his pupils are grand specimens of physical activity and strength. To give his pupils an opportunity of showing his friends how much they have improved during the past season, Newton staged a private entertainment at the headquarters of the club last Thursday, when, besides his pupils showing to advantage with each other, Professors Jack Scales and Johnny Thomas sparred with members of the club. In the professor's private rooms are to be seen the cups his pupils have won during the past season, and a pleasant evening could be spent hearing A. J. telling how they were won. The opening portion of the entertainment saw the members of the club strengthening their muscles punching a sack that must have weighed 28lb. Messrs. Rippington, McKenzie, Smith, Clayton, Gatwell, and Stillman sparred in turn, one dropping out after each round, only to re-enter again at a later period. All of the above gentlemen are members of the Barnsbury B.C., and show that the professor is capable of imparting his knowledge to others. Johnny Thomas (Leather Lane) gave a severe trial to Mr. T. Rippington, but the amateur stood his ground to the end of the chapter. Bert Brady and a member of the institute gave an interesting display with the mittens, while Jack Scales took no liberties with either Mr. Clayton or Smith. Scales has improved greatly, and is capable, when properly trained, of beating almost the best in England. The tit-bit of the evening was: Six Rounds Contest: Jem Sweeney (Stratford) beat Joe Read (Southwark).—Sweeney is a most improving lad, who never allows his opponent to lead, and taking advantage at the start never lost, and knocked his rival down before the end of the meeting. The second and third were repetitions of the previous passage of arms, and gamely Read fought a battle during the whole of which he was receiver-general, and in the fourth round the referee stopped the bout in favour of Sweeney.

WE HAVE RECEIVED THE FOL- lowing letter from Danny Cripps, of Clerkenwell, who is serving at the front:—

Att Supply Depôt, Field Force, A.S.C.,
South Africa, Elandsfontein, 26—7—00.

To the Editor of THE MIRROR OF LIFE.

SIR,—Just a few lines to tell you that I am in the best of health and hope you are the same. You must excuse me for writing, as I had a paper at Bloemfontein, and seeing that you took the trouble to advertise me and a few more men that are serving the Queen at present in the Boer war, but I am sorry to tell you that Jem Holloway is in a very poor state, whilst us good English lads are still in the best of health, as we were always at home for fighting condition, as we are now showing it to the Boer commandoes. By the way, I would be much obliged if you would send me one of your valuable papers, THE MIRROR OF LIFE, with this advertisement in, for at the present I am stopping at Elandsfontein, in the care of Cpl. Doble, Foulter, and Broad. Dr. Cork, Quartermain, and a few others. In writing this letter I send my best respects to all, as I don't think the war will be finished for a few months more the way it is going on. I think this is all I have to say.

So I remain,
Yours truly,
D. CRIPPS, A.S.C.

BEING SUCCESSFUL OVER Charley Smirks, Young Spooney, of Lambeth, will box "Dido" Vardy twenty rounds, if Mr. Tot Landreth will give a purse.

ALBERT GOULD WISHES THE public to know that he is opening his boxing class on Tuesday, October 9. All his old and new pupils are welcome, and any young men wishing to be taught the noble art of self-defence can get all particulars by applying to A. Gould, or writing, 67, Strahan Road, Grove Road, Victoria Park.

I, H. DUNSTAN, OF H.M.S. VERNON, am willing to box any man in the Royal Navy up to 11st 4lb, middle-weight limit, for the N.S.C. purse, ten or fifteen rounds, or if any gentleman in Portsmouth will put up a purse, and will have a side stake on the result. By covering the £1 at THE MIRROR OF LIFE will lead to business.

[Received £1. ED.]

GEORGE GARDINER TO DAN CREEDON.

LONDON, October 8.

To the EDITOR of THE MIRROR OF LIFE.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to Dan Creedon's challenge, I shall be only too pleased to meet him for the middle-weight championship of England before the club offering the best purse, and for a side stake of £200, which I think is the recognised amount. If Dan Creedon will only post a deposit at your office it will be immediately covered and a match can be made.—Yours respectfully, GEORGE GARDINER.

BOXING AT LEEDS.—PROFESSOR W. Moore's Boxing Pavilion, Vicar Lane, Leeds.—A great twenty rounds contest took place in the above pavilion early last week between Young Sharkey and Albert Crowther for fifty shillings a-side and a £5 purse given by the professor, also a eight rounds contest between two sheenies named Taylor and Bolland. When the curtain was drawn and the ball set rolling, the first two to enter the ring were Tom Moore, of Bristol, and George Barrett, of Leeds, who boxed three rounds which greatly pleased the spectators. Next Charlie Arrowsmith, of Walsall, and Patsy Perkins, of Cardiff, boxed three hard-hitting rounds; then Miss Annie Moore and Miss Frances Bell (American), boxed four spirited rounds, which greatly pleased the spectators; then came the Midgets, who boxed three rounds. After this the ring was cleared for the eight rounds contest, and some rare fun was witnessed, as neither knew anything of the game, the contest eventually being declared a draw. Then came the event of the evening, the twenty rounds contest between Sharkey and Crowther. Round 1. Sharkey was the first to lead, but his opponent was very cautious, and delivered some good body punches, but Sharkey was always there first, and the round ended amidst great excitement. Round 2. As both took the centre both sparred for an opening; then Sharkey dashed in with both left and right, and some heavy exchanges took place, both trying very hard for a knockout. Crowther swung his right across and sent Sharkey to the boards, but he was soon up, and as time was called it was welcomed by both. Round 3. Both looked the worse for wear; it was seen that it would not be a long contest. Sharkey set about his man, and repeatedly hit him on the jaw and sent him to the boards; but he was soon up and fought in the gamest of the game. As the round ended Sharkey held the upper hand, amidst great applause. Round 4, and last. Both set to work hammer and tongs, and after some give and take business Sharkey sent the left in the stomach and the right on the jaw, sent his man down, who was counted out. It was one of the best contested fights while it lasted that was ever seen in Yorkshire. The place was packed to excess. Everyone retired greatly pleased. A well-known sportsman was time-keeper, and referee was Walter Waller (London). Arrowsmith and Barrett looked after the winner, and two friends attended the wants of the loser.

MILITARY BOXING AT ALDER- shot.—Four Rounds Contest: Driver Weedon (Army Service Corps) for once suffered defeat. His opponent was Sergeant Rogers, of the Gordon Highlanders, who, after a very pretty show, was declared the winner, after the fourth round, on points. Ten Rounds Contest: Driver Tullett (A.S.C.) beat Private Bailey (Durham L.I.).—This was a capital contest, and was very equal up to the sixth round, when Tullett (champion of the Modder River) began to show his true form. In the seventh round he knocked his man out, and was declared winner amidst much applause. Ten Rounds Contest: Private Smith (South Wales Borderers) beat Private Emery (South Wales Borderers).—This contest was most fiercely contested, lightning strokes being the order of the day. Smith, who made such a capital show last week in the Regimental Meeting of the South Wales Borderers, as already reported, had a bit the best of it all through, and at the finish won easily. Six Rounds Contest: Lance-Corporal Fairclough (A.S.C.) v. Lance-Corporal Sumner (King's Royal Lancaster Regiment).—A very even contest, good style being shown by both men. At the end of the sixth round the referee declared a draw, and ordered an extra round. Sumner refused to come up to the scratch, and victory was awarded to Fairclough.

JAMES BOWDEN, A.B., OF H.M.S. Devastation, having heard so much talk of the light-weight boxers of the Mediterranean station, is open to box any man in the fleet from 9st 12lb to 10st, for £5 a-side or upwards. An answer through this paper or a note on board will meet with a quick response.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE ACCEPTED Harry Westbrook's purse to contest on Wednesday, 17th inst., at the Lecture Hall, High Street, Deptford:—Bob Russell and Albert Littlefield, Bert Adams and Bob Sadler, Jumbo Nichols and Tom Phillips, Jem Sweeney and Alf Leeper, Frank Morecombe and Jem Exall, Ted Wallace and Charlie Cormock, Tom Causer and George Cunningham, George Gardiner (Ireland) and Jack Everhardt (America).

BOXING MATINEE AT THE N.S.C.

ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON rather a novel innovation took place at the N.S.C. The idea did not appear to catch on on this particular Thursday, as the attendant crowd was more meagre than substantial; but everything must have a beginning, and a bad beginning more often than not results in a good finish. The idea is no doubt a good one on the part of the management. Instead of wearying the spectator with the efforts of novices they devote an afternoon to these thumpers, the efforts of the survival of the fittest being reserved for the serious business of the usual Monday evening re-unions. As we understand the word novice, there were some lads who entered for this competition who might be considered very old soldiers at the game, notably Dan Harris, Crudgington, Harry Fowler, Osman (who beat Jack W. Farley at the Goodwin), Camplin, and Joe Read of Acton, who challenged any lad at 10st. The novices' competition at 10st had attracted a very large entry, but when the time came for scaling this huge entry was as attenuated as the disappearing process of the "Ten little nigger boys," ten lads only being found on the premises, and two of these ten being over weight. Under these circumstances the management determined to get through with the competition, with the exception of the final bout, which was decided on Monday last. The best lads in the competition, who shaped like tradesmen rather than novices, were Crudgington, Winters, Osman, and Lenton. Winters and Osman having proved successful in their heats had the satisfaction of figuring in the final. The two lads who were over weight were placed vis-a-vis for three rounds to see whether something above the ordinary boxing capacity had been overlooked, but the meeting did not result in the unearthing of superior boxing capacity. Details: 10st Novices' Competition.—First series: Jack Crudgington (Stepney) beat H. Fowler (Hackney), "Tuzzy" Winters (Lambeth) beat Joe Reed (Acton), J. Osman (Walthamstow) beat J. Tanner (Marylebone), A. Camplin (Somers Town) beat Alfred Baker (Marylebone). Second series: Winters beat Crudgington, Osman beat Camplin. Two boxers who were overweight faced each other for a three rounds contest: D. Lenton (St. Martin's) beat J. Carney (Marylebone).—Both did very well for novices in the first round. Lenton was much the shorter of the pair, but he managed to keep his opponent going at a very hot pace for the first two rounds. Half-way through the second round he had Carney in a sorry plight. Carney tried hard to equalise matters in the third round, and started well, but condition told its tale, and he had beaten himself before they had been at it a couple of minutes. Lenton kept a good left going throughout, and the judges gave their verdict in his favour.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE Annual Display.—The annual display of the above famous institute at 309, Regent Street, W., held in the spacious gymnasium last Tuesday evening, October 2, proved an immense success, as both the ground floor and the spacious gallery were crowded to excess. The value of such a noble institution as the "Poly" was doubly demonstrated by the magnificent displays of athletics in more branches than one. Judging by the popular enthusiasm, however, the spirited boxing bouts seemed to find the greater favour with the large crowd of spectators. The most energetic of a long list of officials were W. Dart, M.C., W. J. Dodsworth (hon. sec. Polytechnic B.C.), who, assisted by members of the committee, never let a single dull moment pass by. Splendid exhibition bouts were witnessed during the evening between H. Brewer (capt. Polytechnic B.C. and ex-light-weight amateur champion) and Prof. Jerry Driscoll (ex-champion of the Navy), H. Cave (Polytechnic B.C.) and Professor Arthur Westley (instructor Polytechnic B.C.), W. Hughes (winner Stanhope B.C. Light-weights) and A. G. Bool (winner Anchor B.C. Light-weights), B. J. Halse (Polytechnic B.C.) and J. Thompson (Polytechnic B.C.), A. Nollar (winner Isledon B.C. Light-weights) and F. J. McCole (Polytechnic B.C.), T. H. Gibbs (Polytechnic B.C.) and J. H Dooley (Polytechnic B.C.), F. Poole (Polytechnic B.C.) and A. E. Horat (Polytechnic B.C.), G. A. Tarrant (Polytechnic B.C.) and J. Sharp (Polytechnic B.C.), and as a grand wind-up Frank Parkes (Polytechnic B.C. and ex-heavy-weight amateur champion) boxed three exciting rounds with Dave Barry (America). Fencing was ably illustrated by a grand bout between F. Biedermann (Polytechnic F.C.) and A. Duplantier (Polytechnic F.C.); wrestling in the Cumberland and Westmoreland style by J. Baddeley and G. Jackson (both Polytechnic B.C. and Cumberland and Westmoreland Society); gymnastics, which included parallel and horizontal bars, flying rings, with vaulting horse, by members of the Polytechnic Gymnasium, under the direction of Instructor W. Flint, were also demonstrated in a most masterly manner. One of the most interesting features of a capital entertainment was an Indian club solo by Professor Will Pearce.

JOE WALCOTT, THE "GIANT-KILLER," DEFEATS "MYSTERIOUS" BILLY SMITH.

(Special Report.)

HARTFORD, SEPTEMBER, 25, 1900.—Before the Charter Oak A.C. here last night Joe Walcott, the "Giant-Killer," defeated "Mysterious" Billy Smith, of Boston, in the tenth round of what was to have been a twenty-round glove fight at welter-weights. Smith refused to fight any longer, alleging that his hands had given out, using foul tactics. Walcott, after the first two rounds, did the bulk of the leading and had much the better of the argument when the end came. The crowd numbered about two thousand, including a number of New Yorkers who came here hungry for the sport. The referee of the bouts was John White, the time-keeper Joe Dunn, and the master of ceremonies Joe Humphries, all of New York. Walcott was a 100 to 80 favourite over Smith. As the men had indulged in four previous encounters without a knockout the sports thought there might be "something doing" this time. Walcott entered the ring at 10.15 o'clock. His seconds were Tom O'Rourke, Bob Armstrong, and Edmund Johnson. He stripped in fine condition. Walcott's timekeeper was Jack Malone, of New York. Smith followed without delay, and also looked as if he had trained faithfully. His handlers were Bob Smith, John Kelly, and Tom McGinty, while his time-keeper was Jimmy Michael, the cyclist. The conditions were twenty rounds at 145 pounds, straight Queensberry rules. The battle began at 10.32 o'clock. Round 1. Smith opened the ball with several lefts in the body, Walcott countering. Smith got to the jaw with a left jab and Walcott clinched. They mixed it, and Smith got to the body again with hot swings. They were sparring at the gong. Round 2. Smith forced the fighting from the start. He swung to the head and stomach repeatedly, and compelled Joe to clinch. Walcott's counters were sent to the ribs, but Smith in every clinch beat the kidneys with free hands. It was Smith's round. Round 3. Walcott began with a hard rush, getting to his man with a right-hand uppercut which brought a clinch. Smith then roughed it, and used his head in a mix-up. The referee had a hard time breaking the men, and Smith was hooted. Walcott wound up by rushing his man to a corner. Smith was warned by the referee after the bell. Round 4. Walcott's attack was so vigorous that Smith beat an instant retreat. Joe chased him around the ring, belting him on the head and in the body with hard drives. Smith finally stood his ground, and Walcott slipped down as the gong sounded. Round 5. Smith resumed his aggressive tactics, as Walcott was inclined to let up. The mysterious man landed a couple of wallops on the jaw, and Walcott, mixing it up, made his opponent hustle away. Walcott finished the round with three righthanders on the head that sent Smith to the ropes on the defensive. Round 6. They got at it at once, hammer and tongs. Both were roughing, and Referee White had all he could do to break the clinches. Walcott did all the leading in the last half of the round, and had a pronounced advantage. Round 7. It was another case of mix up as soon as they got together. This time Smith stood up, but he did not over-exert himself, and appeared to be playing a waiting game Round 8. Walcott was after his man with a fierce rush, and Smith at once began sprinting again. Walcott followed steadily and drove a solid left to the stomach. After that Walcott nailed his antagonist on the head almost at will, and Smith was on the defensive when time was up. Round 9. As Walcott rushed, Smith stepped in with a heavy right-hand smash on the head. Walcott grinned and mixed it. They exchanged some light blows which made the crowd hiss, but a moment later they were banging away with both hands. Walcott was the stronger and Smith soon backed out of the rally, evidently having enough of it. Walcott had his adversary on the run at the end. Round 10. Walcott cut loose at once and put a hot left into the stomach. Then they mixed things furiously. Smith roughed it and butted with his head repeatedly. The clinches were so hard that the referee tugged away with main strength to get the pugilists apart. Smith then refused to continue fighting. Walcott was declared the winner.

HARRY THORNE'S NEW BOXING Club, Liverpool.—Dan Whelligan, of Birkenhead, has not been appointed (so Harry Thorne informs us) official referee of the above club.

LIVERPOOL GYMNASTIC CLUB, 140, Dale Street, Liverpool.—On Thursday, October 18, 1900, Billy Brierley (Liverpool) and Tom Wickwar (Leicester) will box the best of fifteen rounds with 4oz glovse for £25 a-side and a purse of £25 given by Harry Thorne, also Jack Patterson (Liverpool) and Jemmy Green (of Birkenhead) will box eight rounds for purse of £5. Thorne would like to hear from some good London and provincial lads.

HEXHAM HOUSE SALOON, NEWCASTLE.

THE WEATHER IN NEWCASTLE on Saturday evening was not in the slightest degree pleasant, but there was a fairly good company of spectators at the Hexham House Saloon, Newcastle, where Mr. James Lowes put forward a most attractive programme. The commencing bout was between H. Stanley, of New Zealand, now a resident of the Coaly City, and R. Wilson, of Gateshead, and they boxed in right merry style, and then appeared a debutant, so far as here is concerned, in M. Sheridan, of Leeds, who sparred well with Jack Jones, of Newcastle. This pair was succeeded in the occupation of the ring by Jocker Mason and Tom Dixon, the latter of whom a week last Monday beat Jem Barry at the National Sporting Club, and he received a great and hearty reception, for in the North he is very popular. Of course, with Mason he made a big show, and the pair were heartily applauded. The event of the evening was an eight rounds contest between George Atkinson, of Gateshead, and "Darkey" Carpenter, of Newcastle, who boxed for a tenner and a purse. The contest was a most excellent one from start to finish, Carpenter receiving the verdict, but we must say that the verdict was not received with approbation by the majority of the onlookers. Carpenter was seconded by his brother, Bob O'Neill, and J Hay, and Atkinson by "Spider" Carr, Jack Tait, and Bob Ford. Kid Veitch was referee, and Martin Nealis (timekeeper).

THE NEW ADELPHI CLUB OPENED for its Thursday reunions with a grand representative array of boxers, the principal bout being between those small weeds Jem Exall and Frank Morecombe, who fought a battle of the long ago over again with, however, the same result as formerly. Six Rounds Contest. C. Brigden beat J. Emblin.—Round 1. Very useful-looking men. Repeatedly in holds. Brigden most of the leading, but light. Emblin a better punch, and drew blood. Latter tried the right hand, but very wild with it, and to the call of "Time" no harm done. Round 2. Emblin led off, but no result. Short arm work and open to close and effect mischief. To the close both actively concerned. Round 3. Brigden started in much better form, and with one, two, three, sent Emblin to the ropes. The latter continued with the worst of matters, and both were in need of a rest. Round 4. They stood too far apart to hurt each other in the first sixty seconds. Brigden forced the pace, and performed far better than Emblin, who tired very much. Round 5. This was a repetition in many respects. Emblin made a good deal of use of himself, but in the wrong direction, and Brigden steered well ahead, driving Emblin all over the ring. Round 6. Nothing but a knock-out could save Emblin from certain defeat. He persevered as best he could without avail, having no possible chance of success from the fourth round. Dave Morbin beat Nat Keyser.—Round 1. Morbin started with a yawn, and someone suggested that he wanted a sleep. He soon proved wide awake, and commenced the business hot and strong. Keyser followed suit, and they both hit straight from the shoulder, the blows not being by any manner of means of a light nature. Round 2. Morbin led off, and was very prolific, digging in the left into the stomach with provoking persistency, varied by some spirited countering on the dial. Keyser was not idle. Round 3. Again Morbin led, and some good two-handed fighting ensued at close quarters, with mutual advantage. Towards the end Morbin had a good lead, and loud applause greeted the call of "Time!" Round 4. As before Morbin led, this time planting the left full in the stomach. He was too clever for Keyser, and sharper with both hands, getting all the best of the bout. Round 5. Keyser looked far less distressed, but it must be remembered that Morbin had done most of the work. Staying is Keyser's forte, but on this occasion he stayed too long. Round 6. Morbin, with his overwhelming advantage on points, still continued adding to them. Keyser, as usual, boxed better in the last minute, but Morbin set him a good go and fought better with both hands. Keyser looked like going on for another six. Tom King beat Jem Wheeler.—Round 1. A careful start and much feinting for an opening. After smart finessing Wheeler led. A good deal of shifting about and minor mischief effected. Wheeler with an advantage. Round 2. King first, and with the left hand scored fast. Wheeler made tracks after him, and there was active work, but not a very severe punch. Round 3. Wheeler boxed a deal on the defensive, and they frequently clinched. It was all fighting at a long range, King bringing about a fine rally to complete the bout. Round 4. Exchanges were pretty equal at the outset. Wheeler the first to take a lead, and, slinging viciously, was very effective. They repeatedly fought in holds, Wheeler ordered apart. In the last few minutes King knocked Wheeler down. Latter rose and fought out time. Round 5. Wheeler jumped in, and King met him with a similar reminder, he doing most of the work, chiefly with the left hand. Wheeler found ground twice. Round 6. Wheeler tried hard, but he was far too slow. They fought vigorously from start to finish, and King received the verdict. Bill Francis beat Bill Cole.—It was first one and then the other slinging helter-skelter very wildly. No attention paid to science, but plenty of hard, determined work, and no flinching. Each man often looked like paying the penalty of defeat, and after slashing away to their hearts content up to the fifth round Cole retired, after a hard fight. Eight Rounds Contest: Frank Morecombe beat Jem Exall.—Readers are well acquainted with the ability of these boxers, who have so often figured in THE MIRROR OF LIFE. The announcement that they would once more face each other sufficiently indicated the fact that good sport might be confidently anticipated, and no one was disappointed. It was a clever exposition of the art fistic, and merit hung well in the balance for the greater part of the contest. The first to show superiority was Morecombe, and he finally won. Thus ended a really good night's sport, a verdict everyone present corroborated, even going so far as to declare it to be the best ever seen at the Adelphi.

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JEM TURNER, OF PORTSMOUTH AT KIMBERLEY.

JEM TURNER, OF PORTSMOUTH, has doffed the khaki and settled down in Kimberley some time since. Jem Turner writes us a long screed. The Kimberley paper from which we clip gives the following details: "We may say at once that Jem's fighting on Saturday enhances his name and popularity in Kimberley, while our visitor has won the admiration and respect of every spectator. A gentlemanly fighter without any mistake, taking no unfair advantage of height or weight, and smiling when one would forgive a frown, Will Kennedy will always have a cordial welcome from Kimberley sports, even though it be not always as hot as Jem gave him on Saturday night. But now for the details: Round 1. Turner got to work without delay, and two or three drives were enough to disconcert a novice; but Kennedy is no novice; his guard was magnificent, and as watchful as a hawk. Round 2. Jem got in with the left two neat side-headers, Kennedy still watching. Round 3. A rapid exchange, both men trying for an opening, Kennedy getting home with his right. Round 4. Turner twice got in a left hook, and some heavy slogging followed. Round 5. The sparring in this round was a really fine exhibition of trained work. Kennedy's right again told, but as yet there was little choice between them. Round 6. No result. Kennedy's method all through was very fine, but in this round he appeared to be getting blown. Round 7. Kennedy tried a double-hander, but Turner was too lively. His dodges were as bright as his drives at the big'un. Round 8. Jem got home with his left, and Kennedy returned with the right. Round 9. Jem this time got in a double-hander very pluckily. Kennedy smiled. Round 10. Jem put it all on, Kennedy splendidly defending, and trying for a knock-out, but the bell found them at it, and the fight concluded amid loud applause. The referee declared the match a draw, and this to the impartial spectator was the only possible verdict. There was some confusion for a few minutes at the close, someone having declared for one more round, for which Kennedy appeared not averse. But Turner, to his credit be it said, stepped out and declared that articles had been signed for ten rounds, and he would keep to that engagement. Mr. Jack Law, too, was firm, and having declared the match a draw, stepped out of the ring.

BOXING AT CHATHAM. — PUBLIC Hall, High Street, New Brompton, Kent, Monday, October 15, 1900. Great Boxing Competition. The final for the silver belt. The following are left in the final for the belt. Tom Mack (R.E.), Roberts (Royal Rifles), B. Ford (H.M.S. Gleaner), Dick Trout, of Portsmouth. A Six Rounds Contest for Middle Weights: McKale (Royal Navy) v. Sam Cavell (black, Australia). A 9st Contest: Barkaway (Rochester) v. Simmonds (R.M.L.I.). A Six Rounds Contest, 8st 4lb: Wallace, of Brompton, v. Phillips, of R.M.L.I. A Six Rounds Contest: White, of Chatham, v. Hall, of Chatham. A Six Rounds Contest: Gilkes, of Gillingham, v. Dennis, of Strood. An Exhibition of boxing will be given by Walker, of London, and Coles, of Royal Rifles. Referee, THE MIRROR OF LIFE; time-keeper, Matt Hall; M.C., Mr. MacQuillan; judges, Mr. Martin and Matt Hall; boxing manager, Mr. C. Mannering. Doors open 7.15, commence at 8.

ALBERT GOULD WOULD LIKE TO box Griffiths, of Birmingham, if Ted Beach will find a suitable purse.

BOXING AT RUSHMOOR HILL, ALDERSHOT.

SIX ROUNDS CONTESTS: LANCE-Corporal Summer, East Lancashire Regiment, beat Private Langrish, Durham Light Infantry.—In the first round Summer, who had the longest reach, had a bit the best of it, and drew first blood from a nasty tap on the proboscis. In the second and third rounds Summer only played with his man, and was told to fight up. There was more go in the next round, Langrish being nearly knocked out. In the fifth Langrish rallied, but was in a bad state. As soon as the last round started Summer was again warned by the referee to fight up or he would be disqualified, but immediately he started business Langrish gave in. Heavy-Weights: Driver Weedon (champion of the Army Service Corps) beat Private Vine (A.S.C.).—This pair had met a short time previously, but Vine, not being satisfied with the referee's decision, challenged Weedon again. Round 1 was very even, both going in for very hard hitting. In the second Vine got in some heavy blows, and Weedon retaliated, but missed several chances. Just as the fighting began to be interesting Vine fell as if in a fainting fit from sickness, and his case being hopeless Weedon was declared the winner. Vine had only recently been discharged from hospital, after being invalided from South Africa. Light-Weights: Private Fidgett (South Wales Borderers, late champion light-weight of Army and Navy) beat Private Smith (South Wales Borderers).—This was a terrific set-to whilst it lasted, both as lively as kittens, and hitting out for all they knew. At the finish of the first round Fidgett led. The second and last round was of a similar nature, but Smith's wind was clean knocked out of him, and he had to give in. Both were loudly cheered. Eight Rounds Contest: Lance-Corporal Fairclough (A.S.C., light-weight champion of Lancashire) beat Driver Tullett (A.S.C., champion of the Modder River).—This proved the best fight of the meeting, the men being very evenly matched, but Fairclough always had a bit the best of it. Till the end of the fourth round Fairclough did not show anything like his proper form, but after that he came out. In the seventh round he assumed the aggressive, and in the eighth, and last, he landed his man heavily all over the face and body, whilst Tullett failed to get one of his upper-cuts home. He proved wonderfully game, however, and although he was the loser, he was loudly cheered. At the conclusion Colonel Isherwood presented the prizes.

JEM DEWIS WILL BOX ARCHIE Wright for £50 or £100, at 7st 6lb. By Joe Smith leaving a deposit at THE MIRROR OF LIFE a match will be ensured.

WHEN PHIL MAY WAS IN SYDNEY he cultivated the noble art of self-defence under the tutelage of Larry Foley, and the twain became fast friends. Larry once urged May to "take on" the wider field of England, as he was firmly convinced that as a black and white artist he had no equal. "Right you are, Larry," responded May, "let's go together. I'll travel as champion Black and White artist and you as champion Black and Blue artist."

TOM GILLIOTT, ROTHERHAM, WHO won the 9st 8lb championship cup at Stalybridge, was trained by Joe Williams, sen., at Mr. Matley's, Pack Horse, Rotherham.

ALBERT GOULD, ex-7st 10lb CHAM-pion, will give a handsome silver cup under shade for an 8st competition, to take place at his boxing-class room, Builders' Arms, Old Ford Road, on October 23. All entries free, to be sent to Albert Gould, 67, Strahan Road, Grove Road, Victoria Park. A silver medal for runner-up.

I, J. CARTWRIGHT, OF H.M.S. Excellent, would like to box T. Bourne, of the same ship, ten or fifteen rounds for the N.S.C. purse, or if any gentleman in Portsmouth will give a purse, and will have a side stake on result. By covering the £1 standing at THE MIRROR OF LIFE will lead to business.

J. FREEMAN, IN REPLY TO FRANK Exall's challenge, is willing to make a match, 7st 4lb. If Exall will only leave a deposit at THE MIRROR OF LIFE Freeman will immediately cover it. Freeman hopes this time that Exall will be able to find the money.

GEORGE SHEPHERD, IN ANSWER to Albert Hollings, will be pleased to box him for the best purse offered, ten, fifteen, or twenty rounds. "Kid" McCoy or "Ginger" Elliott can be accommodated.

GEORGE ALLEN, OF ABERAVON, challenges any man in Wales in a game of rings for £5 to £10. L. Scattieut preferred.

THE SOLID SILVER BELT TO BE presented by Mr. Harry Wright to the winner of the 8st 4lb professional competition is on view this week at THE MIRROR OF LIFE office.

BILL PIKE, SEEING THAT JACK Hennessy cannot box, Pike will be pleased to box Billy Bolton for the same purse at Harry Wright's.

"DIDO" PLUMB VERSUS CHARLEY McKEEVER.

JOHNNY HUGHES WRITES:—JUST a few lines to you to let you know that Plumb is fit and well, and is well inside his weight for his contest with McKeever, and will sure to render a good account of himself on Monday next. We have had a fine time down here, as our many friends have done everything in their power to make us comfortable in our training, and thanks to Mrs. and Mr. Hatchard for the many good things that they put on the table, likewise Mr. Bill Bryley, the trainer of the Portsmouth football team, and the rest of all the other players for their services rendered to us whilst training.

FITZ ON "NEW BLOWS."

"THIS talk about a 'corkscrew punch,'" said Bob Fitzsimmons, "makes me laugh. I've read often about this and that fighter, including myself, inventing new blows, and have been much amused. But the funniest yarn of all is that which tells us that a fighter of renown has invented a 'corkscrew punch.'

"As a matter of fact, a fighter when engaged in a hard combat does not think of fancy blows. On the contrary, he looks for an opening for any good wallop that he can put in. A heavy swing or a stiff jolt is effective enough to suit all purposes. In all my fights I've never used anything else. It is just a case of when to send in a hard smash and how to land it. If anybody tells you that a fighter had time to try 'corkscrew' or a 'zig-zag' you may bet all the money in the world that he's kidding. Nobody ever tried such a punch on me, and if he did I'd soon knock his head off, because he'd be too much occupied thinking about the blow to bother himself with me.

"Now and then I hear that a fighter has invented a new blow. I see the punch illustrated, and it looks formidable. But I'll bet a thousand dollars to a red cent that when the fellow gets into the ring he only knows how to deliver the old time-swings and jabs. When I landed on Corbett's solar plexus in Carson City they said it was a new blow. Bosh! Why that was an ordinary stomach punch that had been used by fighters for years. It happened to drop Corbett, and then we heard of the solar plexus for the first time.

'When a man gets into a desperate fight, he must have his head with him, of course. But he doesn't have much time at that to think the matter over. He must have quick, snap judgment and know exactly what to do in case of emergency. He must also know just where to punch an opponent so as not to waste his blows. When Ruhlin and I were exchanging wallops the other night neither thought of 'new blows,' but both of us were anxious to land an old-fashioned wallop on the point of the jaw or in the stomach that would decisively win the fight.

"The punch that knocked Ruhlin out was a left half-hook in the jaw. It was not a new blow at all, for I've used it often before. It was simply the best smash I could land, and was let go from the most convenient place I could find in the ring. In that whole fight there wasn't what could be termed a new blow, for there wasn't time for either of us to try experiments. I've seen lots of fights, and I can say candidly that the style of punching has not changed at all in the last ten years. Of course, I'll admit that the methods of pugilists have improved a great deal, and that is only natural. Fighting, like any other game, is bound to improve, but not as far as walloping is concerned.

"If a fighter cannot hit he's handicapped. A man may be exceptionally clever, yet he cannot win if unable to punch. It's the punch, then, that wins fights, and I believe I've demonstrated this fact more than once. A pugilist who can take a punch and give one back is the man who has a chance to work his way to the top. I like to meet a man who thinks he can punch, for then I can show him how much harder I can hit. The hardest puncher I ever met was Peter Maher, but I convinced him twice that I could wallop more accurately and with more power. And it wasn't a 'new blow,' either that beat Peter in my two fights with him. No, the 'new blow' talk doesn't go at all."

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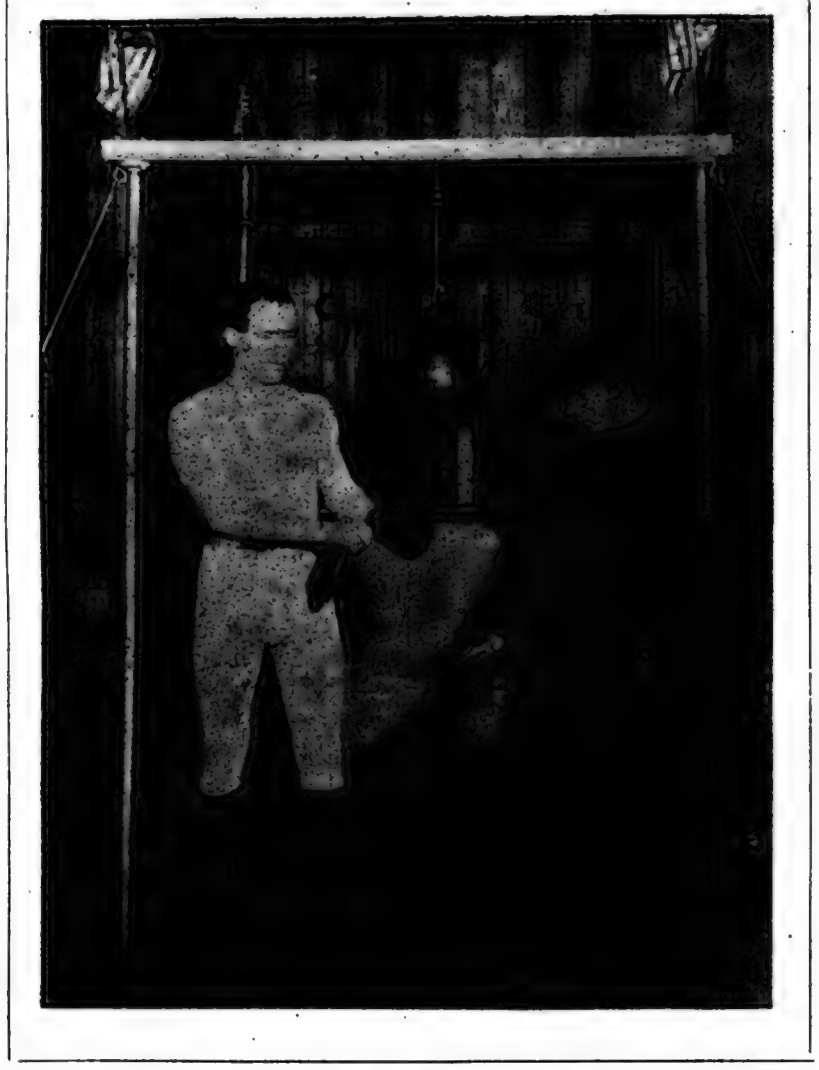
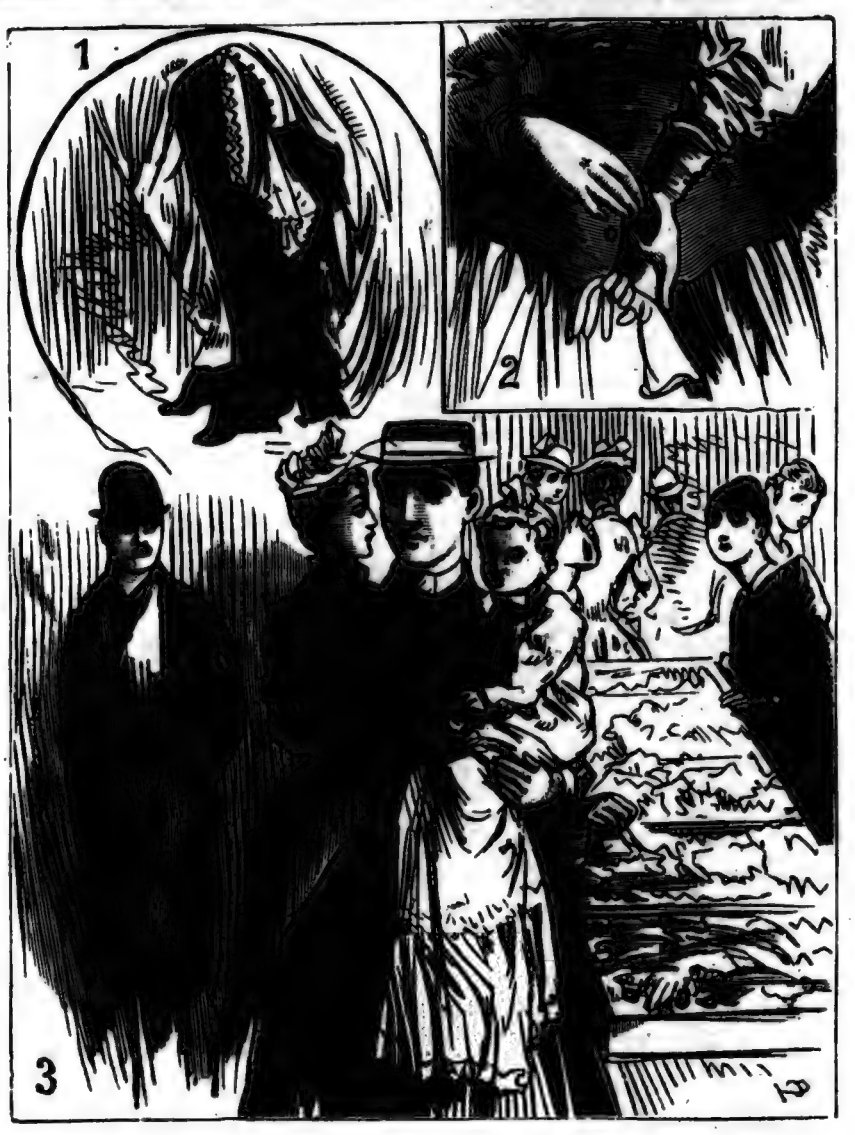


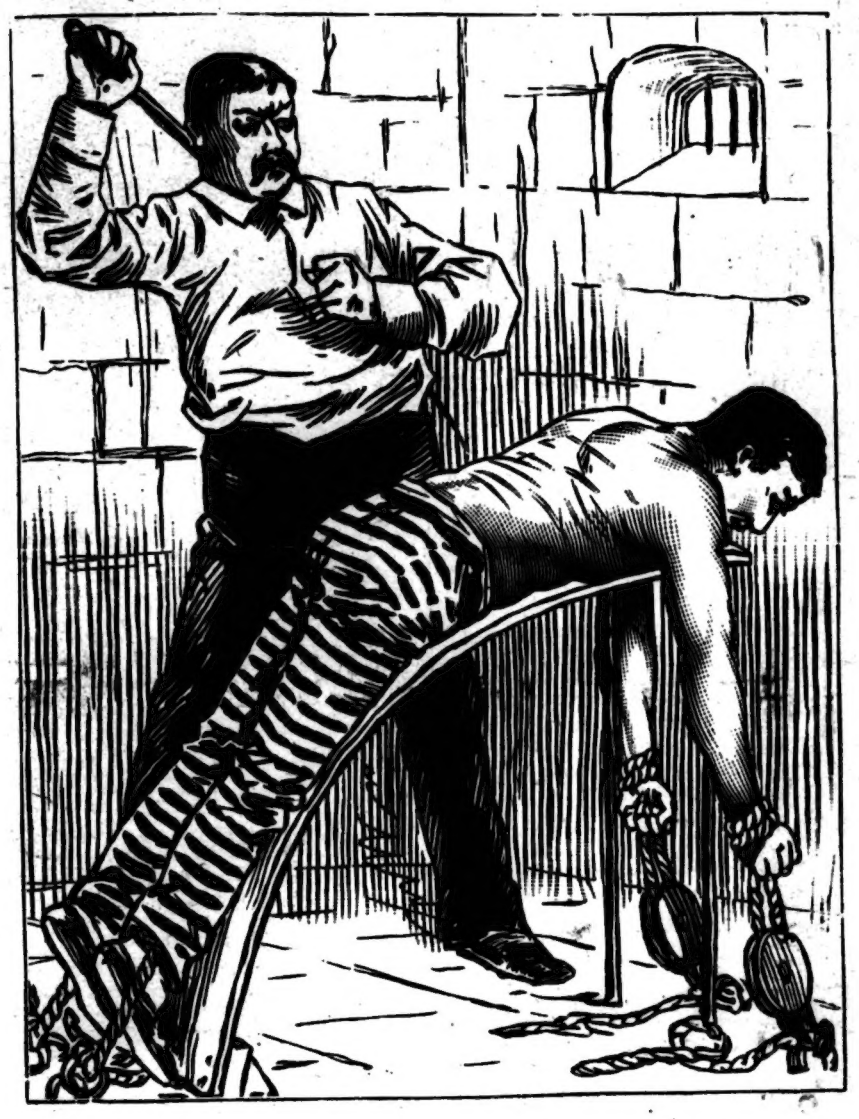
CHARLEY McKEEVER,
Preparing to Punch the Ball, and his Trainer, John M Keever.



SHOPLIFTERS AND THEIR MANY DODGES.
How Shopkeepers are Defrauded.

CHASTISED BOTH WITH A BLACK SNAKE WHIP.
Indignant Mother Came Upon the Offending Pair.

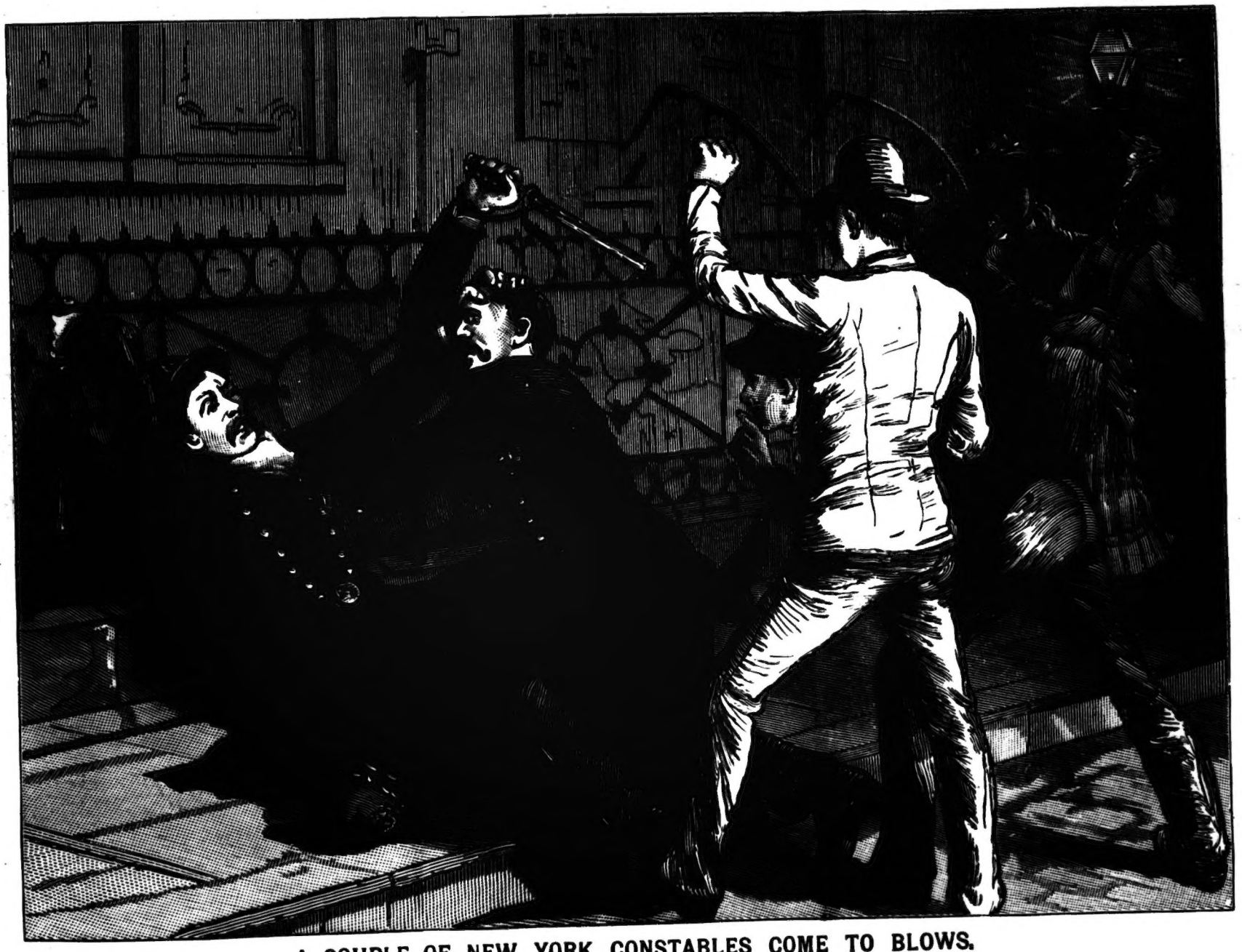
DETERMINED SUICIDE OF A YOUNG MAN.
He Chalked his Last Message on the Rocks.



WARDER ADMINISTERING PUNISHMENT IN SING SING.
Prisoner Securely Bound Receives the Cat.

"PEDLAR" PALMER. JEFFRIES. MATT.

"PEDLAR" PALMER, THE BANTAM CHAMPION, WITH HIS BROTHER MATT AND JEFFRIES.



A COUPLE OF NEW YORK CONSTABLES COME TO BLOWS.
They were Rivals for the Good Graces of the Cook.

GEORGE DIXON'S MANAGER TALKS OF BEST METHODS OF MAINTAINING GOOD HEALTH.

Calls Boxers Ungrateful.

HAVING had dealings with more boxers than any other man in the world, I may be pardoned for presuming to pass an opinion on them. Judging from my experience with them I am forced to the conclusion that 98 per cent. of the fraternity is ungrateful and mendacious. No matter how much is done for them (and rest assured few of them could make much headway except for able managerial effort), they do not appreciate it, and will invariably repay you with abuse.

There are, of course, some exceptions to the rule, and a particularly shining case in point is that of George Dixon. Other boxers call themselves "Gentleman this" and "Gentleman that," but I think George comes nearer to being a real gentleman than any of them. He is not only grateful, but also reliable, his only fault being his inability to keep money.

Regarding the reliance that could be placed in Dixon, I could send him to California to train for a fight. I might not arrive an hour before the battle, but I would find him in good condition. He would train faithfully, whether anyone was there to watch him or not.

His First Heavy-weight.

Thomas Sharkey was the first heavy-weight I ever handled. Owing to his magnificent physique and combativeness I at first had great hopes of Sharkey, but after a fair trial I am convinced he can never win the championship. The reason is that he lacks head. One prime requisite for a successful fighter is to follow the instructions of his chief handler. Sharkey would not do so. He would listen to Tom, Dick, and Harry regarding a fight, get confused, and fight like a novice. I kept him well in hand for the Jeffries battle, and was with him every day, but in his battles with Ruhlin and Fitzsimmons, Sharkey showed such pig-headedness I could not take an interest in his work, and he practically went along on his own hook. Before he entered the ring with Fitzsimmons I instructed him not to spar with Fitz, who can feint with any one, but to slip about and get in a blow when he got an opening. He did well enough in the first round, but in the second lost his head and rushed in to close quarters with the hardest hitter of the lot. Had he followed my instructions throughout I believe he would have won.

I have referred to an absence of regard for the truth on the part of fighters, and I am convinced the Sailor is the champion in that respect.

Walcott a Phenomenon.

In the matter of fighting ability, I consider Joseph Walcott the phenomenon of the age. I believe he can beat any man in the ring, without reference to weight, barring Jeffries. I believe Walcott can beat any man Jeffries has defeated and do it in quicker time than the champion. I would be glad to match Walcott against any heavy-weight except Jeffries, and will not ask for a loser's end. The purses have been equally divided in every heavy-weight contest that has taken place for years past. The heavy-weights cannot be induced to enter the ring unless the purses are split. However, if any of them can be induced to meet Walcott they can have all the purse provided they win.

The reason they cannot be induced to meet Walcott is that they fear the humiliation of defeat at the hands of a 140lb man. Walcott's success against large men is that he gets inside their guard and swings up to the jaw, which he cannot miss. Few tall men can hook a blow effectively. Most of them hit straight, and, therefore, they cannot damage a chap who stands but 5ft. 2in.

He Denies This.

I have been much interested in the discussion regarding the best means of retaining physical vigour, as carried on in the columns of the MIRROR OF LIFE. I have no doubt it will do much good. I have been asked if the knocks and bruises received by boxers have a tendency to shorten life. I say no. Look at the age to which Jem Mace and other bare knuckle fighters have lived, and they fought under rules which entailed severe punishment. The effects of the knock-out blow on a well-trained man are not serious. The greatest danger nowadays is from contestants striking their heads on the floor when falling, which has produced concussion of the brain. This is a difficult obstacle to overcome. A soft padding for the ring floor would interfere with the footwork of the boxers. Referees should, I think, attempt to catch a boxer who has received a knock-out blow.

Danger in Training.

There is one feature of an athlete's existence which, however, is full of the greatest danger, and that is training. A strong man can send himself to an early grave by excessive training. The trouble with that sort of work is that many men keep at it too persistently. Boxers who begin training for a contest too soon after the preceding battle take great chances. They do not give themselves time to recover from the strain of one battle before they prepare for another. This saps the vitality and leaves the man open for lung disease. When an athlete finishes with a hard battle, for which he has trained hard, he should then relax and permit nature to repair the loss of vitality. Increase in weight is the sure sign of recuperation. Then he can begin training again with no ill effects. But if a boxer continues training for successive contests and takes no rest he is almost sure to go into a decline. He will first become what is known in athletic parlance as "stale." The symptoms are failure to perspire, lack of speed or vigour. In such emergencies heroic measures must be adopted. Walcott went stale once while training, and as soon as I noticed it I made him stop work, fed him all he wanted to eat, and kept him so full of Bass's ale for a few days that he was hazy as to his surroundings. He came around all right.

Due to Too Much Work.

I have noticed that instructors in gymnasiums die at an early age. It is due to constant physical effort without any chance to recuperate. A decline is the result. Of course, it is their business and they must stick to it.

While physical exercise in moderation is a good thing, yet it is very dangerous if carried to excess, and this applies to all classes of people. The main idea of work in a gymnasium is to develop knotted muscles. That is all wrong. Hard muscles are of no earthly use to any one except a heavy weight lifter. A flexible muscle is what is required by an athlete, no matter in what branch of sport, and it can be acquired by light work. Take the hardest hitters in the ring—Maher and Fitzsimmons—and they do not exhibit much muscle. A man whose arms and shoulders show bunches of whipcord muscles cannot hit hard, and the foot racer or cycle rider whose legs were thickly covered with bulging muscle could not attain much speed. They would be muscle bound.

I know of one case of excessive training that practically ruined a great boxer. That is Jemmy Barry, who trained continuously for years. McGovern and McFadden will injure themselves unless they stop their continuous training performances.

Physical development is a great thing, but you can get too much of it.

MOTHER LEFT HER HOME FOR A REVIVAL MEETING.

But Her Husband Favoured the Pub.

(Subject of Illustration.)

THEY are not the best regulated families who are found to have those prettily worded texts framed upon their walls "God Bless Our Home," "What is Home Without a Mother," and such like floral inscriptions. It was a home surrounded by such as these that Mary, the wife of Jem Jones, wrote on the wall, "Dear Jem,—Gone to Sam Jones's revival. Back at two." But whem Jem returned, he found the children and the place in disorder; then Mr. Jones took a hand with the chalk, and left a message which Mrs. Jones on her return seemed much astonished at, and it is on record that Jones not only kept his word, but slightly overdid it.

A COUPLE OF NEW YORK CONSTABLES COME TO BLOWS.

They were Rivals for the Good Graces of the Cook.

(Subject of Illustration.)

"WHEN thieves fall out honest men get their due"—so says the old adage; but when the thief catchers fall out among themselves then the thief gets a bit of his own back. A couple of New York bobbies had a jealousy between them. Of course there was as usual a lady in the case, and the pair were rivals. At last it became unbearable, and unexpectedly meeting each other outside her abode, they drew their clubs, and a battle royal ensued until both fell exhausted to the ground. During the scuffle one gentleman lost a valuable repeater, while another was eased of a handsome scarf pin, valued at 250dols.

CHASTISE BOTH WITH A BLACK SNAKE WHIP.

Indignant Mother Comes Upon The Offending Pair.

(Subject of Illustration.)

THE pleasures of the mazy waltz had its attractions for Miss Ellen Rider, and with what she termed her young man she used to spend the evening in toeing it to the tuneful strain of a well known Strauss version, but this was not as it should be, for the girl's mother prohibited the practice, and vetoed the waxed floor amusement, so the couple were against her wishes. But the elderly lady learned when and where her daughter was "carrying on," so she armed herself with a black snake whip, an ugly weapon made of strong leather, went to the academy of dancing, and entering the room made straight for the disobedient pair and soundly laid the whip over both their shoulders.

DETERMINED SUICIDE OF A YOUNG MAN.

He Chalked his Last Message on the Rocks.

(Subject of Illustration.)

THE would-be suicide prepares to quit this world in different ways. Some prefer the water, others rope, a little cold steel, or friendly bullet to dispatch them from this to the unknown. Generally they leave a little note acquainting the world of their troubles, while others try to destroy their identity, but none display much originality in their endeavour to escape from the trouble of their existence. One man succeeded in an attempt. He waded out into the river, and after chalking his name and from whence he came coolly drew a revolver and put a bullet through his head. Standing in the water he was sure of death. In the event of the bullet not taking effect death by drowning would have been certain.

ENORMOUS BUSINESS IS BEING done at Drury Lane Box Office, "The Price of Peace" is drawing all London.

THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE Newington, has a big attraction this week in the shape of Mrs. Lewis Waller, who is playing "Zaza," supported by a powerful company.

"FOR THE SAKE OF A WOMAN,' the new drama at the Pavilion Theatre, is playing to crowded houses. A professional matinée was given yesterday which was well attended.

JUST A FINAL REMINDER THAT Mr. Harris's benefit at the Queen's, Poplar, will take place to-morrow (Thursday) evening.

PAT RAFFERTY TOPPED A BIG bill at the Alhambra, Brighton, last week, his song, "What do you Think of the Irish Now," was received with much enthusiasm.

MR. JACK DE FREGE'S SECOND complimentary matinée will take place at the London, Shoreditch, to-morrow. A large number of well-known artists have promised to appear.

TOM COSTELLO'S TURN AT THE Hammersmith Palace is a capital addition to an already strong programme, and his song, "The Bridegroom," captures the whole of the auditory.

CHIRGWIN HEADS A STRONG BILL at the Holloway Empire. His songs and quaint business keep the audience well amused. The Robinson Baker trio of expert jumpers also deserve special mention. Their jumping powers are marvellous.

GATTI'S (CHARING CROSS) RE-opened last Monday week with a strong programme, which is still running, and comprises George Leyton, Mark Melford and Company, Tom Costello, Atlas and Collins, Miss Bertha Vere, Miss Minnie Duncan, Frank Seeley, Jack Heath, Sisters Marshall, Will Toole, Miss Millie Varcoe, and others.

PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT item in the excellent programme at the Queen's, Poplar, is the sketch "Nicholas Nickleby," adapted from Dickens' famous novel; Frederick Maxwell as the schoolmaster Squeers contributes an exceedingly clever character study, and he is well supported by a crowd of capable people.

"THE HANDY MAN" HAS SETTLED down to work at the Alhambra, and the ballet goes with a delightful swing from start to finish; Marcel's Basrelief Art Reproductions continue to attract much notice, and the varieties contributed by that marvellous juggler Spadoni, the Pantzer Trio, Miss Lil Hawthorne, Labakan and Omar, &c., produce highly gratifying results. The "Soldiers of the Queen" ballet is as big a favourite in the programme as ever.

MR. MILLER HAS A CAPITAL company at the Paragon. George Robey is singing some new and funny songs, the Dumond Minstrels discourse sweet music, Miss Kate James's turn is well received, the comical business and the excellent music subscribed by Binns and Binns, the delightful fooling of the Poluskis, and the song contributed by Miss Lil Hawthorne, assisted by a sweet-voiced youngster in the gallery (or somewhere upstairs), are immensely relished. The Finneys, with their under-water tricks performed in a huge tank, Bert Shepard, the Phantos, Fred Karno and Co. in sketch, "The New Woman's Club," and many others meet with cordial receptions. Miss Vesta Tilley concludes a highly-successful engagement here on Saturday next.

THE PROGRAMME AT THE PALACE Theatre is as usual first-class and comprises a number of novel and clever turns. Griff, the spoof juggler, appears to go even better here than at any other hall. Charles Mildare, the whistler, is paying a return visit, and the same remark may apply to R. A. Roberts, who is again appearing in his quick change sketch "Lucinda's Iopement." Leo Stormont's patriotic song "Brave Boys" (which is a sort of advance welcome to those we hope to see sooner or later) is splendidly rendered and wins complete approval. The charming young ladies described as the English Roses dance divinely, and many other excellent turns are on the programme, not forgetting the always welcome Biograph.

DAVE.

A FASHIONABLE OPIUM SMOKING DEN IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The First Step to Degradation and Self-Destruction.

(Subject of Illustration.)

THE vice of opium smoking is not confined to the Chinese, for in San Francisco there are several houses where other than the celestial can be accommodated with the seductive pipe, which invariably ends in the ruin of the smoker. The habit grows and cannot be shaken off, and the victims, after a few months, become a sallow-complexioned wreck of humanity, and die a wretched and horrible death. Many of these houses are splendidly furnished, and are appointed fully equal to a first-class hotel. The first downward step is here, and after that, with no money and the passion for the pipe upon them, they soon reach the gutter, and find a pauper's grave.

WHERE LADIES GET THEIR LIGHT REFRESHMENT AND SUNDRY GLASSES OF WINE.

Fashionable Institutions who Supply Their Customers.

(Subject of Illustration.)

BECAUSE some ladies can truthfully say they have not visited any café or public-house, yet return home somewhat fuddled, with the aroma of sherry or port unmistakably hanging on the atmosphere, that is no reason why they have not tasted not one but several glasses. There are one or two places where ladies who wear tailor-made coats and dresses, if they wish it, can be supplied to all they care to accept in the way of refreshments. Here a waiter, tray in hand, supplies their wants, and many are induced to give their orders where they can without trouble indulge in a quiet glass or so of wine.

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